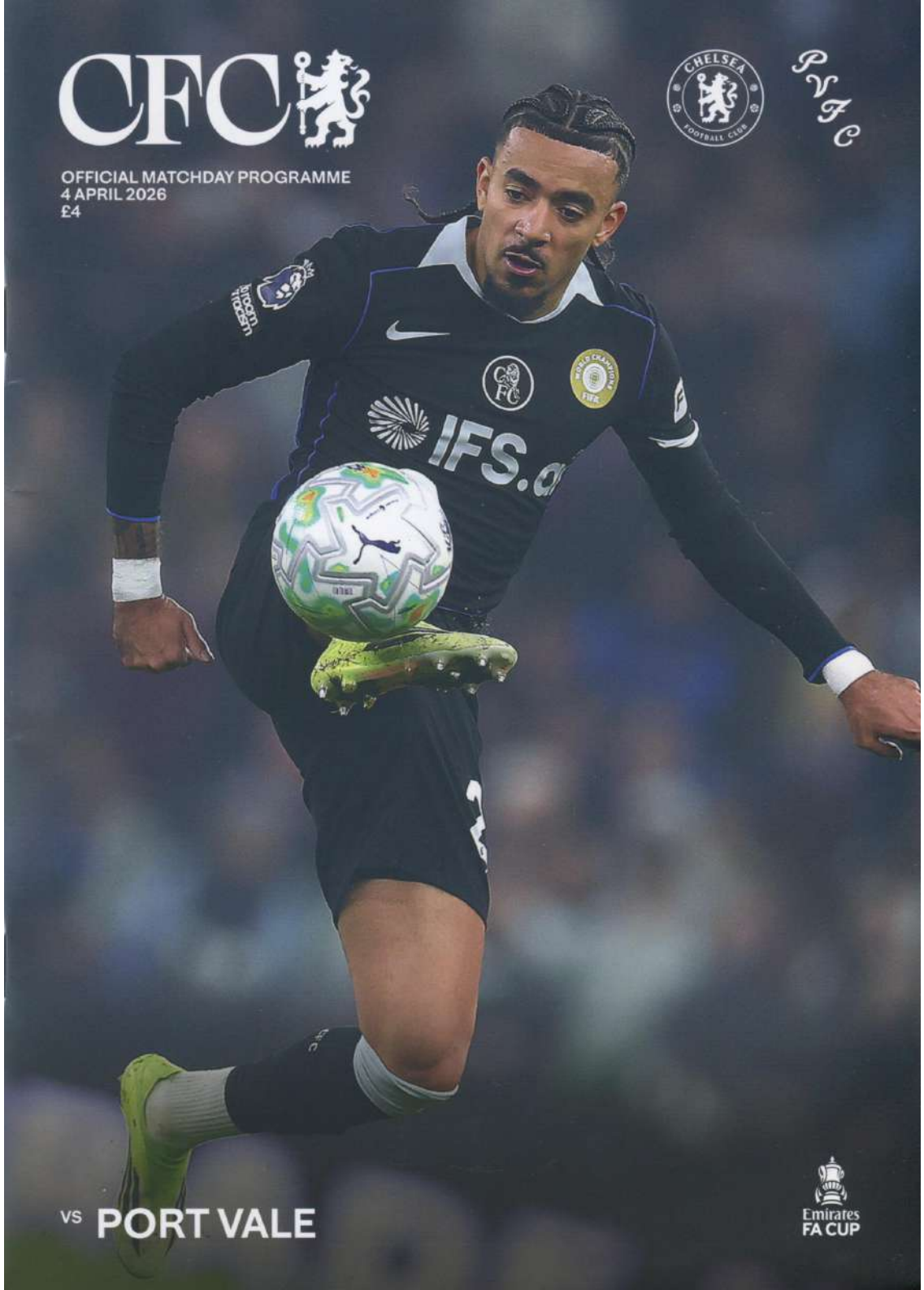
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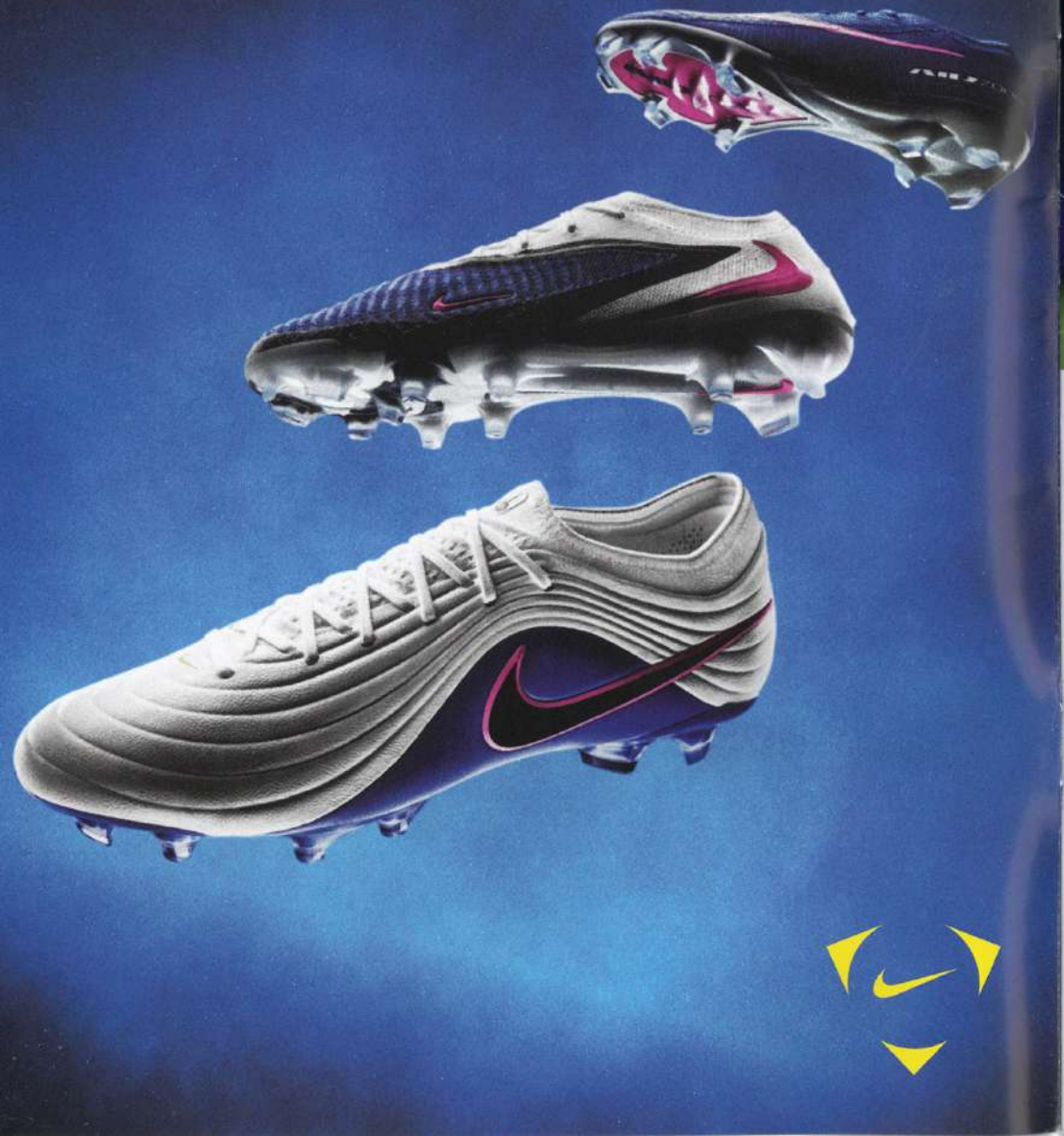

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Matchday programme produced by Reach Sport

Online orders and back copies www.reachsportshop.com **Email** cfc.programme@reachsport.com
Programme editor Richard Godden **Features editor** Dominic Bliss **Designer** Glen Hind
Statistician Paul Dutton **Photography** Darren Walsh, Chris Lee, Harriet Lander, Getty Images, Chelsea FC Archive, Mirrorpix, Alamy and Mark Sandom **Printed by** Bishops Printers
Thanks to Tom Roddy, Michael Cornall, Charlie Long, Antoni Funcillo, Inayah Shah and Ryan Pursey

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LIAM ROSENIOR

HEAD COACH

Welcome, everyone, to Stamford Bridge for this FA Cup quarter-final tie, including Jon Brady and his team.

We know we are going to be facing a team with a lot of fight in Port Vale, who have beaten strong opposition to get here, and who will be determined to make the most of the opportunity they have here today.

However, we also view the FA Cup as a great opportunity for us this season, and a win here today will take us to Wembley for a semi-final. So there is a lot at stake and we have to make sure we return to the pitch today with the right attitude and 100 per cent focus on the task in front of us.

We saw in the last round how this competition gives hope to clubs from the EFL that there is a bit of magic to be found, and that feeds into the atmosphere in FA Cup ties. It's what makes it so special for the fans, but for us it's about going out there and doing a job, which is to impose our game from the start and make sure we progress to the last four.

The international break gave us time to sit down together, collectively as a staff, to reflect, to analyse and to plan for the games and weeks ahead. The players who went away to join their national teams will hopefully come back with a fresh mind and new energy to attack the run-in.

We have a lot to play for, both in the league and the cup, and we have to make sure that we go into these games with the right mentality, knowing that we can end the season on a high.

With three home games on the spin over these next three weekends, your support is going to be massive for us, and we're relishing the chance to give you all something to cheer about in these coming weeks.

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REECE JAMES

CAPTAIN

It's always important for the team to immediately reset our focus as we return to club football at the end of an international break, and with a place in the FA Cup semi-final at Wembley at stake today, the lads will have to be switched on against a Port Vale side who will come here keen to show what they're capable of on a stage like this.

They may be at the bottom end of League One but we all know what the FA Cup can do for teams' motivation, and so it's important that we approach this tie with the right attitude and make sure that we take control from the start. They've beaten a Premier League side, in Sunderland, to get to this stage of the competition so we know it isn't going to be easy.

The FA Cup has been a massive part of this club's history and we grew up watching Chelsea winning this trophy. We've come close a few times in recent seasons without taking the final step to lift the cup, but we always aim to win every competition we enter and this is our last chance to pick up silverware this season.

The last round, at Wrexham, was a tough game. They really went for it in front of their home crowd and we had to dig in and fight for the victory, which we ultimately got after extra time. We have been scoring a lot of goals in the previous rounds and we have to continue to show that hunger if we want to keep progressing.

This is the first of three games in a row at Stamford Bridge now, with Manchester City and Manchester United to come here over the next two weekends. We are going to need your support as we look to win these massive games and push on in league and cup. We had a tough spell before the international break, but we need to put that behind us now and kick on to achieve our goals.

Come on Chelsea!

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The Blues and Valiants are meeting today for the first time in 97 years, with all 14 of our previous matches taking place in the old Second Division between 1905 and 1929. It's also just the second time Port Vale have reached this stage of the FA Cup, and first since 1954

HEAD-TO-HEAD

WON	7
DRAWN	4
LOST	3
SCORED	29
CONCEDED	13

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

	Division Two	
Season	Home	Away
1905/06	W 7-0	L 2-3
1906/07	W 2-1	L 0-2
1924/25	W 1-0	D 1-1
1925/26	W 3-1	W 6-0
1926/27	W 2-0	D 0-0
1927/28	W 1-0	D 1-1
1928/29	D 3-3	L 0-1

DID YOU KNOW?

> Scottish international Jock Cameron (below left) is the only player to transfer directly between the clubs, making his move from Chelsea to Port Vale in 1913. He played 194 games for the Blues. Both Joe Allon (below centre) and Steve Livingstone (below right) moved from the Blues to Port Vale on loan in 1991 and 1993 respectively, while Chelsea's 2010 FA Youth Cup winner Aziz Deen-Conteh had a spell at Vale Park after turning professional but didn't play a game for the club.

> Our first-ever home game against Port Vale (who were known as Burslem Port Vale at the time) was in our first season in the Football League, in 1905/06. We recorded our biggest-ever victory against them as we ran out 7-0 winners, including a brace for Jack Kirwan, but that doesn't tell the whole story as Willie Foulke saved two penalties in the last five minutes to preserve the clean sheet.

> Port Vale have never played top-flight football, and hold the record for the most seasons in the English Football League (113) without reaching the first tier.

Founded 1876
Nickname The Valiants
Home ground Vale Park
L2 2024/25 2nd (promoted)
Best FAC Semi-finals (1953/54)

LAST FA CUP LINE-UP

vs SUNDERLAND (W 1-0)
FA CUP FIFTH ROUND
08.03.26

LAST FIVE RESULTS

Date	Opposition	Competition	Result
14.03.26	Huddersfield Town (h)	L1	D 0-0
17.03.26	Blackpool (a)	L1	L 2-3
21.03.26	Bolton Wanderers (h)	L1	W 1-0
24.03.26	Doncaster Rovers (a)	L1	L 0-1
28.03.26	Wycombe Wanderers (a)	L1	L 0-4

BEN AMOS
Position Goalkeeper
Age 35
Nationality English
Last club Wigan Athletic

JOE GAUCI
Position Goalkeeper
Age 25
Nationality Australian
On loan from Aston Villa

CONNOR HALL
Position Defender
Age 32
Nationality English
Last club Colchester United

JORDAN GABRIEL
Position Defender
Age 27
Nationality English
Last club Blackpool

LIAM GORDON
Position Defender
Age 26
Nationality Guyanese
Last club Walsall

KYLE JOHN
Position Defender
Age 25
Nationality English
Last club Everton

CAMERON HUMPHREYS
Position Defender
Age 27
Nationality English
Last club Rotherham United

ELI CAMPBELL
Position Defender
Age 21
Nationality English
On loan from Everton

TYLER MAGLOIRE
Position Defender
Age 27
Nationality English
Last club Workington

BEN GARRITY
Position Midfielder
Age 29
Nationality English
Last club Blackpool

ETHON ARCHER
Position Midfielder
Age 23
Nationality English
On loan from Luton Town

RHYS WALTERS
Position Midfielder
Age 20
Nationality English
Source Port Vale

FUNSO OJO
Position Midfielder
Age 34
Nationality Belgian
Last club Aberdeen

JORDAN SHIPLEY
Position Midfielder
Age 28
Nationality Irish
Last club Shrewsbury Town

GEORGE HALL
Position Midfielder
Age 21
Nationality English
Last club Birmingham City

ONEL HERNANDEZ
Position Midfielder
Age 33
Nationality Cuban
Last club Charlton Athletic

DAJAUNE BROWN
Position Forward
Age 20
Nationality Jamaican
On loan from Derby County

BEN WAINE
Position Forward
Age 24
Nationality New Zealander
Last club Plymouth Argyle

MARTIN SHERIF
Position Forward
Age 19
Nationality Dutch
On loan from Everton

ANDRE GRAY
Position Forward
Age 34
Nationality Jamaican
Last club Karagumruk

JON BRADY
Age 51
Nationality Australian
Last club Northampton Town
Appointed January 2026

HAS NEVER PREVIOUSLY FACED CHELSEA AS A PLAYER OR MANAGER

POSITIVE OUTLOOK

After missing a big chunk of his first campaign as a Chelsea player through injury, Dario Essugo returned to action in the last round of the FA Cup and his impressive cameo served as a timely reminder of what he can bring to our midfield. We caught up with the 21-year-old to find out about his adaptation to life in England and how, through a tough period on the sidelines, his mindset has remained positive

INTERVIEW • DOMINIC BLISS

He may still be awaiting his first competitive start for the club, but Dario Essugo played a key role in Chelsea reaching this FA Cup quarter-final.

It was his perfectly weighted ball that provided the assist for Alejandro Garnacho to fire us 3-2 up at Wrexham in the previous round, the first time that we had been ahead in a tie that we ultimately won 4-2.

That moment meant a lot to the 21-year-midfielder who had endured a season on the sidelines up to that point, recovering from a thigh injury suffered last September while on duty with Portugal.

"It was very nice, very nice, because it was a long time that I was injured," he explains, as we sit down with him at Cobham during the international break. "So when I had the opportunity to be on the bench - and then to come on - it was a very good moment for me.

"I just want to be playing, so even to be on the bench with my team-mates again was a very good feeling, you know, and we wanted to win, so we needed this goal and to provide the assist made me very, very happy."

The Portuguese midfielder produced a promising performance after coming on for Romeo Lavia 65 minutes into the fifth-round tie at the Racecourse Ground. He was industrious, astute in his use of the ball and his technical quality was best summed up by that effortless angled pass over the backline for Garnacho to volley home six minutes into extra time.

Prior to that game in Wales, Essugo's last competitive outings in a Blues shirt were the three substitute appearances he made in the FIFA Club World Cup in America last summer, so he is still awaiting the chance to represent Chelsea on English soil.

However, he had the opportunity to sample the Stamford Bridge atmosphere in pre-season, when he played in a couple of friendlies here against Bayer Leverkusen and AC Milan. His tidy midfield displays in those games had us nodding in approval, but his injury setback in the international break that followed prevented us from seeing any more of him until now.

"It was a taste," he says, "and I enjoyed so much to play in Stamford Bridge - and I want to play there again soon.

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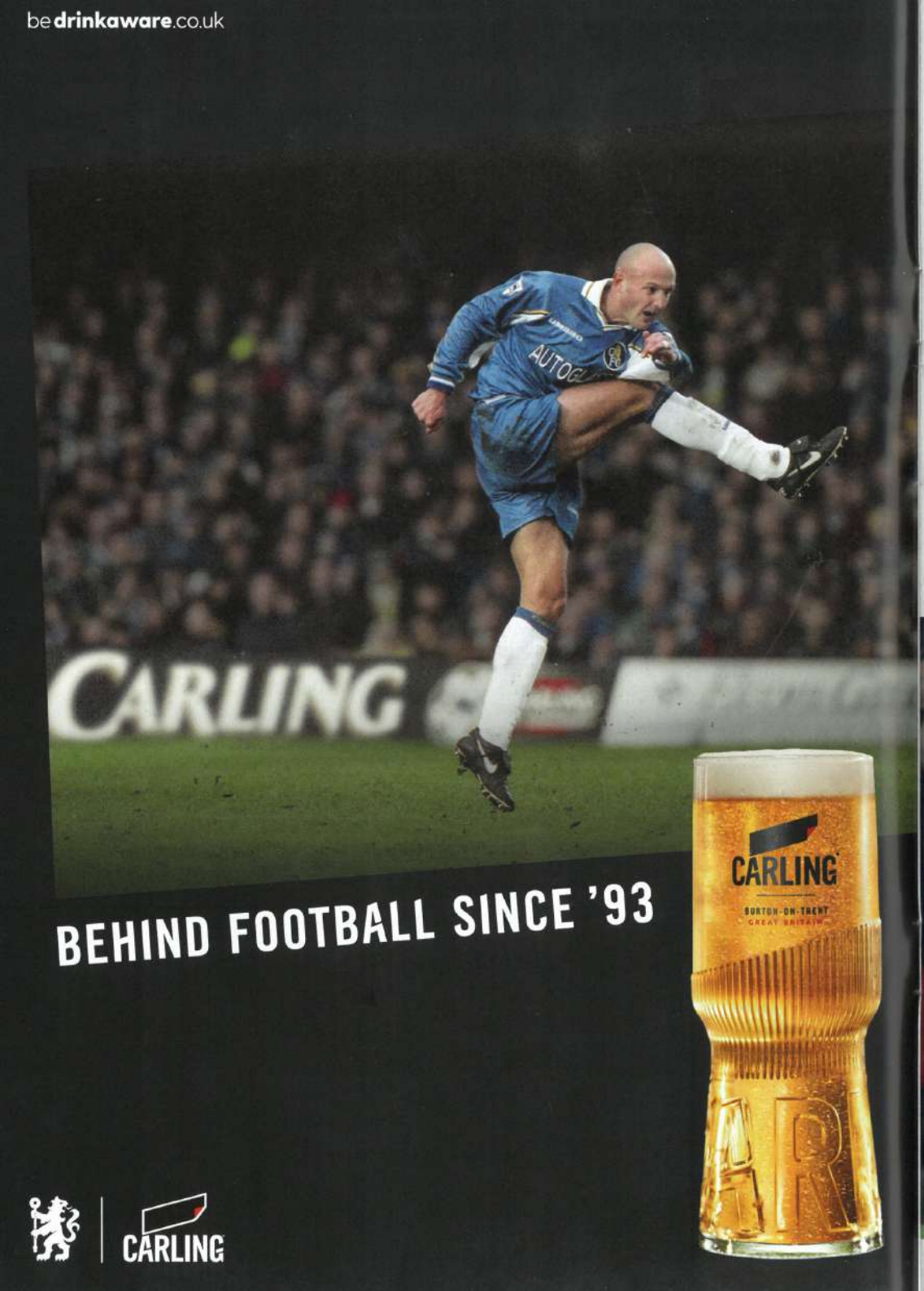

"When you arrive in a new club like Chelsea, you want to prove yourself and you want to show how good you are," he says, before referencing his injury setback, "but sometimes these moments can happen and you just have to learn from it, to think about the future when you will be playing again and to try to show what you can do then.

"My mentality during this time was to try to be better than I was before, to understand why some injuries happen, to find a way..."

...To stay positive, I suggest.

"Yeah, to stay positive, because some days you can't stay positive all the time. But it's important to go forward, to not give up."

Essugo was an early bloomer in the football world, making his debut for Sporting Lisbon the same week that he celebrated his 16th birthday and signed his first professional contract.

"It was a very special week – a lot of emotions to live," he says. "It's very good, honestly, because you dream about that. I think everyone that starts to play football always dreams that one day you will be there, where you saw all the players on the TV. You can't explain how it feels in the moment [when it happens]."

The midfielder then became Portugal's youngest Champions League debutant when he came off the bench in a game against Ajax at the age of 16 years and 268 days in December 2021. Later that season, he also became Sporting's youngest-ever starter, surpassing the record previously set by the legendary Luis Figo.

He is quick to point to the significance of his family in his rise to the professional game, the influence of his footballing brother Danilo Luis, who plays for Alverca B in Portugal, and the sacrifices made by his parents as he was growing up.

"My family was a very big support and I think this is the most important thing," he says. "If you have one person who believes in you it is so important. If I didn't have my mother or my father to pick me up for training, and this kind of stuff, maybe I wouldn't have gone at all. They put the effort in for me to one day be a football player and if I didn't have them, maybe I wouldn't be here. My family is the most important thing in what I've achieved."

His parents moved to Portugal from Angola and now have dual nationality.

"It helped me a lot because they are very strong mentally," he says when asked how his upbringing shaped him. "I can see they struggled in the past and now they can live a little bit better, you know. But they helped me to see that life is not easy, and also the people there in Angola... all the time they smile, they dance, everything. I've never been, but I want to go one day."

When pressed to describe his own best qualities, and how they got him to where he is, his humility extends further: "I work hard, I never give up and I'm mentally strong," he says.

That application got him far in the game and he believes authenticity is a vital attribute for anyone looking to achieve their dreams. Asked what advice he would give to youngsters looking to make it to the top, he doubles down on this.

"Listen to the person who really cares about you," he says, "and you have to be yourself. If you try to be someone

LINGLONG TIRE

else, you can't go anywhere. So be you, listen to your mind, what you feel, and what you want. Keep working, keep pushing and never give up, because life changes very quickly, so you never know."

After that early breakthrough, loan spells followed with Chaves, in the Portuguese top flight, and Las Palmas, in La Liga in Spain, before he signed for Chelsea in time to take part in the FIFA Club World Cup last summer. He made his debut as a late substitute for Moises Caicedo against Los Angeles in the group stage, before playing just over half an hour in the 3-0 win over ES Tunis and making a late entry into the quarter-final against Palmeiras. At the end of that game, he could be seen translating as Cole Palmer and Estevao had their first conversation, following the latter's glittering display against a Chelsea side he was set to join.

By the end of the tournament, he had a winner's medal round his neck and felt like his induction to the club was complete.

"A lovely moment, a lovely moment," he says of winning silverware within weeks of joining up with his new team-mates in the States. "I didn't expect to join Chelsea and arrive with one title already! It's an amazing feeling.

"Everything was new, but I think the Club World Cup, for me, was the best timing because, at a tournament, you are more close with your team-mates – you stay in the hotel, you do things together and spend more time. So yes, on the pitch and off the pitch I got to know my team-mates and it was a top moment when we won the trophy."

Essugo's prolonged spell on the sidelines since then hasn't prevented him from getting to know the club and the people around him better. It has only served to increase his hunger to succeed here but, for now, he is taking things one step a time.

"Personally, I just want to stay fit for the rest of the season," he says. "Stay fit and, after, I know I can't control what can happen, but I will try to help my team-mates to achieve our goals.

"The FA Cup is important," he continues. "Every competition we are in, we have to think about trying to win and the FA Cup is no different. In the last round, it was a tough game, because Wrexham is a very good team – very physical, they play direct balls and the atmosphere there was insane. It was fun to watch and then to play, and our supporters were the same in the away end, it was a good game."

As he makes his way back to match fitness, Essugo will be hoping to experience more of the unique FA Cup atmosphere at the Bridge today, and his return comes as a timely boost for a squad looking to make it to Wembley and rediscover our league form now the business end of the season is here.

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BIG STAMFORD BRIDGE SLEEP OUT 2026

Chelsea supporters bedded down under the East Stand last Saturday night to raise money for The Stoll Foundation and Barons Court Project.

The Big Stamford Bridge Sleep Out has become an annual event in recent years, organised by the Chelsea Supporters' Trust, with the club's assistance. This year, those taking part included former Blues defender, Gary Chivers, while a number of other famous faces sent messages of support.

All funds raised will be evenly shared between the two great charities mentioned above to enable vital work to end homelessness and support vulnerable and disabled veterans to lead fulfilling, independent lives.

"With rough sleeping figures in London showing a 10 per cent increase in the last year, the challenge of tackling rough sleeping remains, and every penny raised by the Stamford Bridge Sleep Out makes a difference," said Mark Meehan from the Chelsea Supporters' Trust.

"At Barons Court project, £5 can pay for a meal and a hot shower and larger donations can help homeless people towards training and employment. At Stoll, £10 can provide an hour of essential one-to-one support for a vulnerable veteran and larger donations can fund activity to boost the mental and physical health of a group of veterans, or buy a recycled laptop or tablet and IT skills training which will help to increase their independence."

Visit **chelseasupporterstrust.com/sleepout** to find out more and donate to the fundraiser.

RETRO SHIRT FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

At the recent home game against Newcastle United, Chelsea fan Chris Wright held his fourth Retro Shirt fundraiser for The National Autistic Society.

Wright encourages supporters to wear their retro shirts to the Bridge and raise funds for a cause that is close to his heart, and he was delighted to bring in another £397 for the charity, taking the running total to £3,273 over the course of four years.

"I'd like to say a huge thank you to all the Chelsea supporters who took part," he said.

"Your support, generosity, and enthusiasm once again made the day incredibly special. It was brilliant to see so many fans getting involved, proudly wearing their retro shirts and helping to create such a fantastic feeling on the day.

"Every single donation, no matter how big or small, is hugely appreciated and will go towards supporting an incredibly important cause. That's something everyone who took part should be really proud of.

"Events like this show the power of football to bring people together for something bigger than the game itself. Seeing those classic shirts from different eras was a reminder of the club's history, while also supporting a cause that makes a real difference to people's lives."

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MSC CRUISES

TONY GODDEN: 1955 - 2026

All at Chelsea Football Club were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Tony Godden.

The goalkeeper made 38 first-team appearances for the club in a one-year stint at Stamford Bridge between April 1986 and April 1987, and kept 12 clean sheets, including one at Old Trafford that will live long in the memories of those who witnessed it.

Godden had initially arrived at the club on a short-term loan from West Bromwich Albion following a serious knee injury to Eddie Niedzwiecki towards the end of the 1985/86 campaign, before signing on a permanent basis in the summer.

In September of the following season, he was the hero as we travelled up to Manchester United for a televised game on a Sunday afternoon. Kerry Dixon gave Chelsea an early lead, but the hosts launched wave after wave of attacks in an attempt to draw level, and earned two penalty kicks within the space of two second-half minutes, only to see Godden save both - one from Jesper Olsen, the other from Gordon Strachan.

He remains one of only three Blues goalkeepers to have saved two spot kicks in the same match, but to have done so in such quick succession to help secure a one-goal victory on the road ensured that Godden's achievement was not easily forgotten.

"Obviously the penalty saves are what everyone remembers, but I thought it was one of the best games I ever played," he later recalled. "Kerry Dixon scored after three minutes and for the remaining 87 minutes it was like the Alamo! I think it was one of the first live Sunday games, too, so obviously it was a massive thing then."

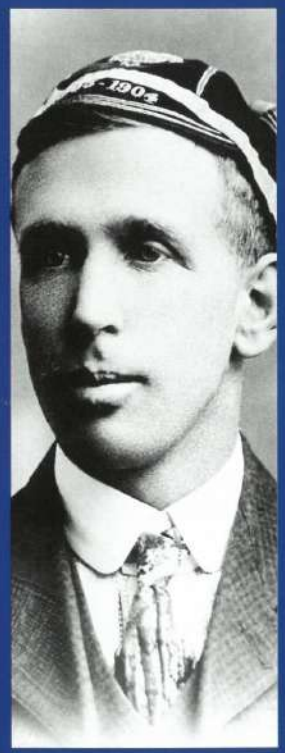
Godden was born and raised in Kent, and had been a boyhood Chelsea supporter, idolising Peter Bonetti, before going on to make over 300 appearances for West Bromwich Albion. During his nine years at the Hawthorns, he also had loan spells at Luton Town and Walsall, before joining Chelsea. After leaving the Bridge in 1987, he represented Birmingham City, Bury (on loan) and Peterborough United, before seeing out his career with non-league Wivenhoe Town.

After retiring, he coached at several non-league clubs and had a spell as goalkeeper coach at Brighton and Hove Albion under Gus Poyet.

Godden, who passed away at the age of 70, remembered his days at Chelsea fondly.

"I enjoyed my time at Chelsea immensely and always had a good rapport with the supporters," he said in a programme interview in 2010. "It was my club and all my family's club. It was quite a big deal when I signed for them. I had a great time there."

OVER LAND AND SEA



WORDS • DOMINIC BLISS

Football is the global game – and the story of Chelsea has had chapters written all over the world. After covering Northern Ireland last month, this time we look back at the Blues who starred for the Republic of Ireland, including our first-ever international player

The first time a Chelsea player won an international cap he was playing not for England, but against them.

Jack Kirwan, who played at outside-left in Chelsea's inaugural competitive match in September 1905, was already a fixture in the Ireland national team when we were founded. An FA Cup winner with Spurs in 1901, the Wicklow-born winger was also a Gaelic Football champion back home, and went on to become the first professional manager of Ajax after hanging up his boots.

His first call-up while playing for Chelsea came in February 1906, when his Ireland side fell to a 5-0 defeat to England in a Home Championship match in Belfast. He played in all three of Ireland's matches in the tournament that year, but they earned just a single point – from a 4-4 draw against Wales – and finished bottom of the table as England and Scotland shared the title with four points each.

Kirwan (pictured left on the opposite page) was a regular in Chelsea's first two seasons, helping us to promotion in 1906/07, and he paved the way for the many Irishmen who have played at Stamford Bridge since, although it was not until the 1950s that the next player from what is now the Republic of Ireland represented the Blues.

Dick Whittaker moved to London to join Chelsea Juniors in his late teens, having learned the game at St Mary's Boys' Club in Dublin. The young right-back signed professional forms with us in May 1952, but didn't make his first-team debut for four years, instead playing regularly for the reserves as Ted Drake put together his title-winning team.

Whittaker's debut came in 1955/56, as our disappointing title defence fizzled out into a 16th-place finish. He made just the one appearance that season, in a 2-1 win over Blackpool in April, but went on to play 51 times for Chelsea over the next four seasons. However, with Peter and John Sillett both at the club, he had stiff competition.

His run in the side towards the end of the 1958/59 season earned Whittaker his only Republic of Ireland cap, which came in a 4-0 defeat to Czechoslovakia in May 1959.

A decade later, we could boast two regulars in the Ireland squad – John Dempsey, who was born and raised in London but represented the country of his ancestors, and Paddy Mulligan, a Dubliner, born and bred. They roomed together occasionally on international duty, as Mulligan recalled when he visited Stamford Bridge last season for our Conference League game against Shamrock Rovers, the club he joined us from in 1969.

"There was never a dull moment when you were with Demps," the full-back said of his good pal.

"We were actually going to meet up at Stamford Bridge for this game, but he's up in the sky now. He was always up in the clouds anyway!

"Demps was a smashing fella and a very good centre-half, very economical in the way he dealt with people on and off the pitch. But he was exemplary on the pitch.

John Dempsey holds aloft the European Cup Winners' Cup trophy after netting an unforgettable strike in our famous win over Real Madrid

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JOHN DEMPSEY WAS GREAT COMPANY. WE ALWAYS SHARED A ROOM WHEN WE WERE AWAY WITH CHELSEA AND IRELAND

Paddy Mulligan

"He was actually the first Irish player to get sent off, in a game in Budapest. I was playing centre-half alongside him that night. The referee gave a decision against him and he pretended to throw the ball at the referee, but it didn't make contact with him. The referee said it did, and Demps went walking.

"We were rooming together and after the game he just kept saying, 'My dad will kill me!' If you saw what he was like on the pitch, it'd probably surprise you to hear that he was so meek and mild as a man. He was great company and a deep thinker on everything. We always shared a room with Chelsea and Ireland and had many good times together."

They won the European Cup Winners' Cup together with Chelsea in 1971. Dempsey started and Mulligan was an extra-time substitute in the initial game against Real Madrid, which ended 1-1 in Athens, but while Paddy missed out on the replay two days later, Dempo was one of the heroes, thumping in a spectacular goal as we ran out 2-1 winners.

Dempsey had also been on the pitch for both games in our replayed FA Cup final triumph against Leeds a year earlier, when the towering centre-back's opposite number was Jack Charlton. Little did either man know that Charlton would go on to become the beloved manager of the first Republic of Ireland side to make the knockout stage of the World Cup a generation later.

There were a couple of Irish players at the Bridge between times, with John Coady and Jerry Murphy both spending time here in the Eighties, but neither man made it into Charlton's squad when he became manager of the Irish side in 1986. First he took them to Euro '88, where they defeated England, and then to back-to-back World Cups in 1990 and 1994. Among 'Jackie's Army' were a number of English-born players who qualified for the Republic of Ireland through parents or grandparents who had emigrated across the Irish Sea in recent decades. They included several Chelsea players.

There was Tony Cascarino, who enjoyed a well-travelled career that saw him star for Celtic and Marseille, after making his name at Millwall. He spent just over two years here, under Ian Porterfield, David Webb and Glenn Hoddle, and although he wasn't a prolific force up front, he offered something different with his physicality and his selfless attitude to the game. Scoring our goal in 1-1 draws with Tottenham two seasons running didn't do his reputation any harm, although the high point for him was probably a hat-trick against the same opponent as we won the final of the pre-season Makita Tournament 4-0 at White Hart Lane in 1993.

Cascarino featured in three major tournaments for Ireland, but admitted in his autobiography that his mother – through whom he qualified to play for the national team – had later revealed to him that she was adopted, meaning he had no direct Irish blood relation. By the time he found out, however, it was too late – he had won 88 caps and scored 19 goals for the Boys in Green!

Alongside him in that memorable Irish squad was another Kentish lad, Andy Townsend, whose grandmother came from Kerry. He was given his international debut after impressing as a youngster at Southampton and then Norwich City in the Eighties, before going on to captain both Chelsea and the Republic of Ireland in the early Nineties.

Townsend was our second million-pound signing, two days after our first – Dennis Wise – as we splashed the cash to strengthen our midfield ahead of the 1990/91 campaign. He came to Stamford Bridge fresh from starring at the World Cup in Italy, where Charlton's Ireland had reached the quarter-finals before falling to a 1-0 defeat at the hands of the hosts. Townsend had played every game, and scored one of the vital spot kicks in their dramatic shoot-out victory against Romania in the last 16.

He was an all-round midfield talent, combining tenacity with technique, and quickly impressed at Chelsea, eventually being named captain when Peter Nicholas departed at the end of his first season here. Townsend had the honour of skippering us in the inaugural Premier League season, but then departed for Aston Villa, who

English-born midfielder Andy Townsend starred for Ireland at two World Cups either side of his spell at Chelsea. Left, Paddy Mulligan won the Cup Winners' Cup with us in 1971

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Terry Phelan (right, alongside fellow wing-back Dan Petrescu)

Damien Duff

DUFF WAS SURELY THE GREATEST IRISH PLAYER TO REPRESENT CHELSEA, WINNING TWO PREMIER LEAGUE TITLES WITH US

at the time were title challengers, in the summer of 1993. His quest for glory at Villa Park earned him a League Cup winner's medal in 1996, but he subsequently missed out on Chelsea's next silverware-heavy era under Ruud Gullit and Gianluca Vialli in the late 1990s. He was even part of the Middlesbrough side that we defeated in the 1998 League Cup final at Wembley.

A couple of years after Townsend's departure, we signed another key member of Jack Charlton's Ireland squad, in the form of raiding full-back, Terry Phelan.

Manchester-born, he had an Irish mother and was fiercely proud of his heritage, representing the Republic of Ireland 42 times and playing at the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Phelan was a powerful attacking force, but also a committed defender who could cross the ball brilliantly. He had been part of the Wimbledon 'Crazy Gang' who won the FA Cup in 1988, along with Wise and Vinnie Jones, and his competitiveness allied to his hard running made him a perfect wing-back.

That's why Glenn Hoddle brought him in to play on the left wing in a 3-5-2 system midway through the 1995/96 season. Those who saw him play at Chelsea will remember how effective he and Dan Petrescu were as the wide men in an all-too-brief spell in which he made just 21 appearances for us. A nasty injury saw him pull up mid-run during the 1996 FA Cup semi-final against Manchester United at Villa Park and spelled the end of his first campaign. He started just one game under Gullit's management the following season, before moving to Everton a year after joining us. However, a bit of pub trivia for you: he was the last man to wear the No25 shirt before Gianfranco Zola.

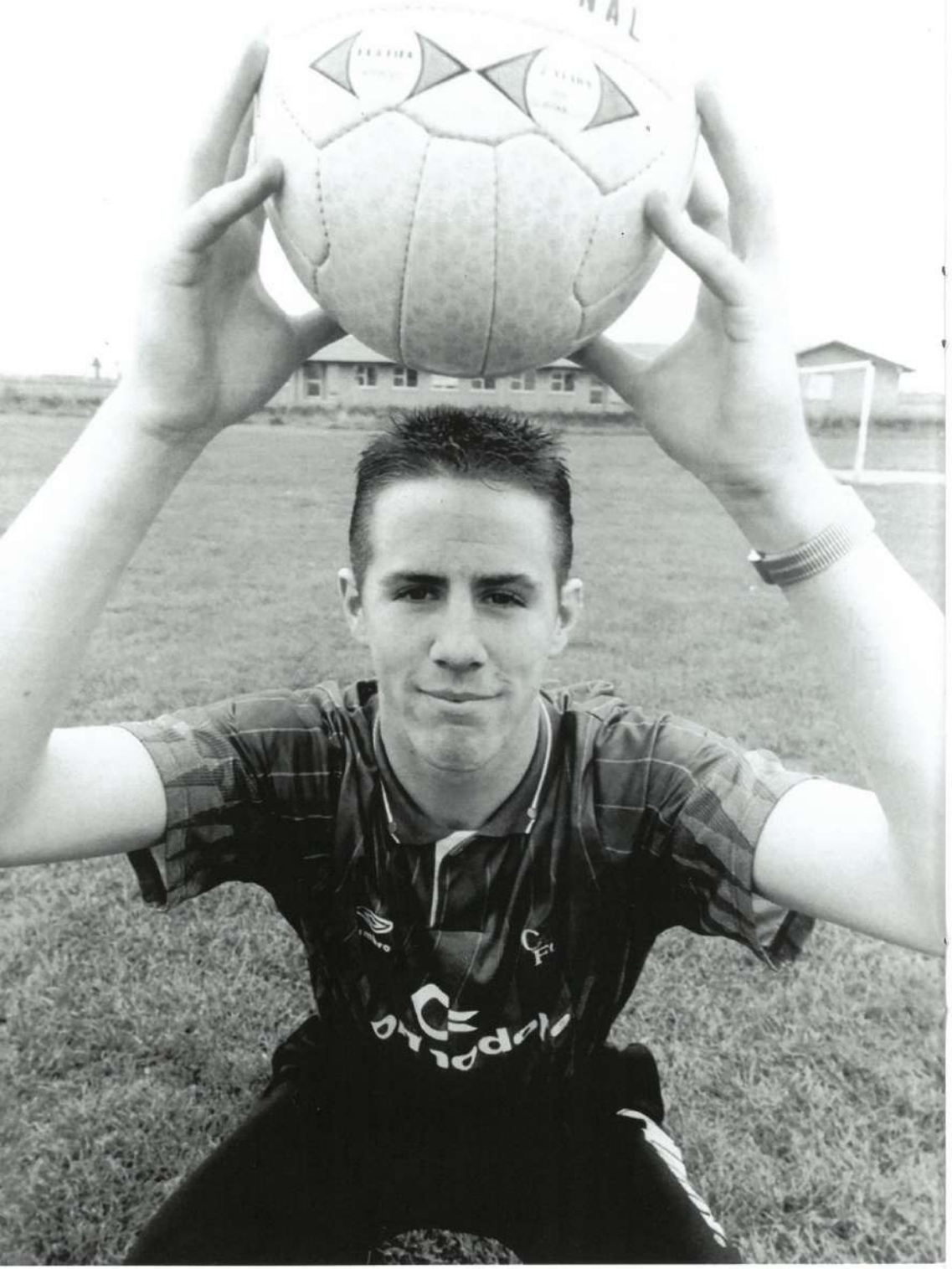
Speaking of bustling left-sided players, surely the greatest Irish player to represent Chelsea was Damien Duff, who fittingly took up the same wide left position as our first-ever international, Jack Kirwan.

Duff had emerged as one of the most impressive young talents in the Premier League while at Blackburn Rovers in the early 2000s, and when we began to build a team capable of challenging for the title in the first summer of Roman Abramovich's ownership, the club pushed the boat out to secure his signature.

After a decent first season under Claudio Ranieri, he came into his own when Jose Mourinho took over as manager in the summer of 2004. Energetic, quick, skilful and incredibly hard-working off the ball too, Duff was the ideal man to play wide left in Mourinho's 4-3-3, and started 42 games in all competitions as we won the Premier League and the League Cup, and enjoyed another dramatic Champions League run to the semi-finals.

The enduring image of Duff at Stamford Bridge is his frantic celebration as he sprinted towards the dugouts pulling at his shirt and roaring after scoring the third of three early goals that turned around our Champions League last-16 tie against Barcelona that season.

He suffered an injury-hit third season here, but picked up a second Premier League winner's medal in 2006, before departing for Newcastle United as a Blues hero.



LEGACY

NICK COLGAN: BEHIND THE BENCH

Nick Colgan was at Chelsea when the club famously lifted the FA Cup on a Blue Day at Wembley in 1997. He talks us through his time as third-choice goalkeeper at the Bridge in the 1990s, ahead of the release of a new book which takes an in-depth look at those who have filled the role for Chelsea in the modern era

WORDS • RUPERT CANE

The importance of the third-choice goalkeeper has only increased over the past few decades as squads and substitutes benches have enlarged to keep up with the busy calendar. It remains a distinctly niche role and at Chelsea, our pioneer of it in the Premier League era was a young Irishman named Nick Colgan.

Born and bred in Drogheda, a port town on the Irish Sea, Colgan was spotted by both Chelsea and West Ham scouts while playing for the Republic of Ireland's Under-16s. He was invited over to London for trials at the two clubs, eventually choosing Chelsea and signing an apprenticeship in 1991 at the age of 17.

Colgan is one of the subjects of *Behind the Bench: The Untold Stories of Chelsea's Third-Choice Goalkeepers*, a new book containing fresh interviews with Blues who have occupied the role since the Premier League's inception. Colgan was a wide-eyed teenager when his Chelsea journey started, but over six years at Stamford Bridge as our number three, he benefited immensely.

He learned from Chelsea legends Peter Bonetti and Eddie Niedzwiecki, who both coached him, as well as team-mates ahead of him in the pecking order such as Kevin Hitchcock, Dmitri Kharine and Ed de Goey. He gained exposure to professional dressing rooms, and got a taste for the levels required to make it at the top of the game. By the time he left the club, he had played one senior game and was an unused substitute on a further 45 occasions.

Despite mostly occupying a back seat at Chelsea, Colgan was able to experience some of the game's biggest stages. That was never more apparent than in the two FA Cup finals we contested in the 1990s, when he was our designated third-choice keeper.

"At the Cup final in '94, I didn't even get on the pitch," he says in *Behind the Bench*, understandable regret in his voice. "They never got the third-choice keeper involved in the warm-up like they do now. I travelled with the team, and then just sat in the stands getting very wet."

Chelsea lost 4-0 to Manchester United. Colgan remembers watching on and wondering how Kharine, who was selected ahead of Hitchcock in goal, could still wear his trademark tracksuit bottoms as the rain lashed down on a rare wet Wembley FA Cup final afternoon.

That Colgan still has his shirt from that day hung up in his garage suggests it is not a memory he wishes to banish, despite the result and his lack of participation. He was only 20, after all.

In the FA Cup final three years later, Colgan occupied the same role of onlooker during the game. Otherwise, his experience was rather different. He had been an unused substitute in the semi-final win over Wimbledon at Highbury, and a few weeks before that made his Chelsea debut in a Premier League defeat against West Ham United at Upton Park.

Given his involvement that season, Colgan was disappointed not to make the bench for the final. Hitchcock had returned from injury just in time to fulfil that role, and by now the Norwegian Frode Grodas was the first choice between the sticks.

This time, though, Colgan did get to walk on the pitch before the game with the other members of the travelling party not in the matchday squad. He could also go on it when the final whistle blew, as Chelsea beat Middlesbrough 2-0.

"In the dressing room, the celebrations were amazing – getting pictures taken with the Cup, with the other goalkeepers. I've no idea where those photos are now! Growing up in Ireland, it was something you could only dream of.

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Nick Colgan barking out instructions in his only competitive appearance for Chelsea, which was against West Ham in 1997. Inset, his unused shirt from the FA Cup final in 1994 and, below, taking part in the pre-match warm-up during his first season as a Blue in 1992/93

"When you don't play, it's not quite the same, but I felt a bit more a part of it, and part of the celebrations afterwards."

Colgan left Chelsea in 1998, joining Bournemouth in England's third tier. It wasn't until he signed for Hibernian north of the border that his playing career took off. He occupied the number one position for four seasons, playing 147 times, and earned the first of his nine international caps for Ireland.

He later represented Barnsley, Ipswich and Sunderland, among others. When Colgan hung up his gloves over 20 years after he arrived at Harlington as a fresh-faced teenager, he had already turned his hand to coaching, inspired by Bonetti and Niedzwiecki's tutelage.

Now, in his role as head of goalkeeping at Stockport County – who play today's opposition Port Vale in League One at the end of this month – he knows as well as anyone what a third choice should bring to the table.

Any experienced veteran fulfilling the job – such as Hilario, Mark Schwarzer and Rob Green, all of whom feature in *Behind the Bench* – must set the standard.

"You've got to be a good trainer, you've got to be a good person around the place, you've got to help produce the goalkeepers that are coming through, you've got to jump into all the shooting practices. But we know that, at any time, we can chuck you into the team and you're not going to let us down.

"Character is really important. I'm a great believer in the idea that if you bring good people to your football club, then good things will happen."

For youngsters, meanwhile, as Colgan was at Chelsea, game time accrued out on loan is vital. His development as a goalkeeper was aided by temporary switches to lower-league clubs: Crewe Alexandra, Grimsby Town, Millwall, Brentford and Reading. He says loan deals for burgeoning keepers should be carefully selected to maximise the chance to improve their skills, be they technical or physical.

Without gaining that experience lower down the pyramid, Colgan knows the risks attached.

"You can end up being a training goalkeeper," he says. "That's maybe what I did for a certain time at Chelsea. Yes, you dip in and play a reserve game here and there – and reserve games were competitive then – but it's really important for a young number three to have that competitive edge in his week."

Colgan has 35 years of work in England's top four divisions behind him. He will always reflect fondly on those formative years at Chelsea, which felt "a million miles away" from Drogheda but helped make him the man, the player and the coach he became. And while it was as a third choice that he was mostly used, the name of Nick Colgan in a Chelsea starting XI will always be etched on the teamsheet from that night at Upton Park.

"I probably had an inferiority complex, a bit of imposter syndrome," says Colgan. "Should I be here? But at some stage, you have to back yourself. You have to.

"I got a game. At times I look back and feel a bit negative and embarrassed: I only played one game. But then I think, how many people would give anything to play just one game for Chelsea? One game in the Premier League? That was my dream as a kid. To play in the First Division. To play professional football in England.

"I played in the Premier League, and then I played a few hundred more professional games in England. Hang on a minute. I've done okay, I've done alright.

"I would have liked to have played more for Chelsea, but did I deserve to play more for them? I don't know. But did I do myself justice? Probably, because I was myself."

***Behind the Bench: The Untold Stories of Chelsea's Third-Choice Goalkeepers*, written by Rupert Cane, will be published in June.**

FAMILY TIES

The last time Port Vale came to Stamford Bridge, the grandfather of a current Blues season ticket holder was among the visiting players. Today, lifelong Chelsea fan Paul Baker will be thinking of Billy Briscoe whose family will be in both ends of the stadium...

WORDS • DOMINIC BLISS

One Chelsea supporter will be in particularly sentimental mood as we host Port Vale in the FA Cup today.

Paul Baker, a season ticket holder in the West Stand, is the grandson of former Valiants idol, Billy Briscoe, who was playing the last time the Blues hosted the team from the Potteries at Stamford Bridge, all the way back in November 1928.

Briscoe, who played in more-or-less every position on the pitch in over 300 appearances with Vale, was at left-back as these two sides drew 3-3 in a thrilling Division Two encounter where the lead changed hands twice before Jack Simms scored a dramatic equaliser for Port Vale in the 86th minute. Centre-forward George Biswell bagged a brace for Chelsea, either side of a strike by Albert Thain, while spearhead Wilf Kirkham was at the double for the visitors.

Vale ran out 1-0 winners in the reverse fixture in April 1929, courtesy of a goal from Albert Pynegar, in what turned out to be our last game against them for almost a century.

Port Vale were relegated at the end of that campaign, bringing an end to five consecutive seasons in which the clubs were in the second tier together. In that period, Briscoe turned out against Chelsea eight times, scoring in the first of those games – a 1-1 draw at Vale's old Recreation Ground in December 1924 – and Baker recalls spending Saturday afternoons sat on the sofa with his granddad, reminiscing as the scores came through on the vidiprinter.

"I spent 30 years with him, hearing all these amazing stories," says Baker, who grew up in the South-East and became a Chelsea supporter. "I used to sit on the sofa with him watching Grandstand and On the Ball and watching him jump up when the Vale scored – he still loved his football. It was just lovely to be around him.

"We used to sit and laugh and look at each other when he would tell us these stories about how good he was, but I mean... he was obviously a really good player because he played over 300 games for them.

Above left, Chelsea season ticket holder Paul Baker (pictured above with Chris Waddle). Above right, his grandfather, Billy Briscoe, in action for Port Vale when the two sides last met at Stamford Bridge in the 1928/29 season, a game which ended in a thrilling 3-3 draw. Opposite page, Briscoe (front and centre) at an event where he was joined by Stanley Matthews (far left), Tommy Docherty (second right) and Mark Chamberlain (far right)

"He was an amazing character, he used to skip every day even into his 80s and his 90s. He built his own house, and he called it Vale Park, can you believe?"

In later life, Briscoe attended a club dinner at which the footballing legend and local hero Stanley Matthews was the guest of honour. The Wizard of the Dribble had everyone in his presence enthralled, but admitted that Briscoe had been his own boyhood favourite, to which Billy added that a young Stanley used to lather his face to prepare him for his shave when he visited Matthews' father's barber shop in his heyday.

Briscoe died in 1994, at the age of 97, and as his grandson settled in to watch the FA Cup quarter-final draw last month, almost 97 years had passed since the clubs' last competitive first-team meeting. Baker messaged his cousin, Leigh, who is a Port Vale supporter, speculating on whether this might be the time the draw finally brought them together again. When it did, a faint memory of his granddad's scrapbook came to the front of his mind.

"I remembered seeing a photograph of him at Chelsea when I was looking through some bits and bobs, so I dug it out and realised that it said 1928. And when they said on the news that the last time that Chelsea had played Vale was the 1928/29 season, I looked back through the record books and the last match at Stamford Bridge was the game from which I had this photo of Billy Briscoe kicking a ball with all these players around him."

Baker later had a small taste of the limelight himself, when his Sunday team was selected to become the focus of a John Fashanu-hosted TV show on Bravo. He also penned songs for England (performed by Chris Kamara ahead of Euro 2012) and Chelsea, and even had the chance to make a substitute appearance for an England legends XI when they were left a player short after Bryan Robson missed his flight.

Today, he will be thinking of his Valiant grandfather as he takes his usual seat among the home fans at the Bridge, alongside five friends who have season tickets together, while members of his family who grew up in the Potteries cheer for Port Vale.

"It's the magic of the FA Cup, isn't it?" says Baker. "It's just a lovely story with me being a die-hard Blue, who went to Munich in 2012, went to Amsterdam the year after, even went to Stockholm back in 1998.

"It'll be sentimental that the family will be there in Billy's memory. My cousin Dave and his nephew are Port Vale season ticket holders, and they'll be coming down on the Port Vale coach. So it's going to be a lovely day for the family."

And the dream outcome?

"Obviously in my heart I want Chelsea to win but also there's a little bit of me that sort of says I hope it's a 3-3 draw like it was last time," he says. "And whoever wins on penalties, good luck to them."

BLUE AND WHITE ARMY

Send your messages to **cfc.programme@reachsport.com**

This is **Gill O'Callaghan** from Reading, whose favourite player is Marc Cucurella. She's hoping to get to the Bridge before the end of the season even if it's just for a tour of the ground.

Wu Qihui is president of the Nanchang Supporters Club and has travelled to Stamford Bridge from China to watch today's game. "I am turning 21 soon and this is the best birthday gift I could ask for!"

Enjoy the match, **Alice**, **Ben**, **Theo**, **Phoebe** and **Izzy**! First Chelsea game together at the Bridge – have a great time!

Happy birthday, **Matty** boy. Lots of love from your girls, Miranda, Mila and Lyla.

Happiest of birthdays to our mate **Tom Dingley** – not only a huge Chelsea fan but now a uni graduate. Congrats, Tom, and enjoy the game.

Happy sixth birthday to our Chelsea super fan, **Louie**!

TODAY'S MASCOTS

THOMAS

AARON

ALFIE

TEDDY

STAN

FRANKIE

JASPER

SOFIA

ROCKY

JESSE

OSCAR

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Happy 21st birthday, **Jaime**. Hope you have an amazing day celebrating and enjoy the match. Best wishes and up the Chels! Love, Mum, Dad and Izzy.

Cole's first match today! Four years old and already a Blue. Hoping for goals, smiles, and a lifelong love of the club.

Happy 16th birthday, **Alfie**. Hope you have an amazing time celebrating your special day at the game today.

Happy 13th birthday, **David**. Love from Mum.

Happy fifth birthday to **Elliott**, who is at his first Chelsea game today. Love from Daddy.

To **Josh** – fourth generation CFC, proud of all you are – happy 18th!

OBITUARIES

Stelios Tsangarides (11.10.43 – 5.1.26) came from Cyprus in 1961 and instantly fell in love with Chelsea. He was chairman for the day in 2013 and was so happy to see the Blues win every trophy during his lifetime.

In loving memory of **Jay Leonard Carter**, a true Blue since the age of two. Forever missed. Forever loved. Forever 13. Fly high, little man.

Beloved fiance, son, brother and 'funcle', **Tom Conn**. Forever kind, his laughter, loyalty and strength shaped our lives and hearts. Now and always remembered with love.

In loving memory of **Daniel Hill** – an incredible young man, talented sportsman and passionate Blues fan. We'll always keep the blue flag flying high for you, Dan!

Caroline Walters, from Virginia, USA, passed away in January after a short illness. She will be missed by all of her friends at Stamford Bridge.

SONIA BOMPASTOR

HEAD COACH

It's been a really busy spell for us, with three WSL matches and both legs of our Champions League quarter-final against Arsenal, and we have another game coming up on Monday when we play Tottenham at Kingsmeadow in the FA Cup.

I'll begin by covering our league matches, starting with Brighton in a midweek game last month. I was really proud of my players for putting in a great performance just a few days after winning the League Cup final.

We went ahead in the first half when Alyssa Thompson scored with a header and although Brighton equalised soon after, we took the lead again through a really nice finish by Lexi Potter, which turned out to be the winning goal. I was really pleased for her because she's a great kid with a lot of talent.

A few days later we had a game against London City Lionesses, which we drew 1-1. I think we had a good first half in terms of the way we played, creating some good opportunities, and we scored the opener through Johanna Rytting Kaneryd, who ran on to a flick on from Aggie Beever-Jones and finished well.

When we started the second half, we created two big chances to score, but we didn't take them and that meant we suffered a bit at the end of the game. London City equalised late on and we weren't able to find the winner after that.

Our most recent WSL match was against Aston Villa and we won 4-3 in a really entertaining game for the fans. They took the lead with their first attack but then we reacted well to score three times through Sam Kerr, Naomi Girma and Lauren James.

From 3-1 up, we should have been in control, but we conceded two quick goals. They had three shots in the first half and scored from them all and I know that six goals in just over half an hour is nice for the supporters, but from our perspective it was not good enough defensively.

I felt we controlled the game in the second half and we were able to score our fourth, which was the winner, through Sjoeke Nusken in the last 10 minutes and I think the emotion at that point was relief. We knew how important it was to win this game as we are fighting for a place in the top three, so it was a big moment.

Sjoeke Nusken celebrates after scoring the winner in a 4-3 thriller against Aston Villa at Kingsmeadow. Opposite page top, Lexi Potter bags her first senior goal for the Blues in a win over Brighton and, bottom, Johanna Rytting Kaneryd was on target versus London City Lionesses

Either side of the Aston Villa game, we had our Champions League quarter-final against Arsenal.

We lost the first leg 3-1 and it was a really frustrating night for us because I thought we performed well and we deserved a better result. We hit the post twice in the first 10 minutes and when those chances don't go your way, it changes the game mentally.

Arsenal went 2-0 up in the first half but we came back into it after half-time when Lauren scored an incredible goal. Unfortunately, they got their two-goal lead back soon after and that's how it finished.

We also had some decisions go against us, including two disallowed goals at the end of both halves, which could have made a big difference. That was really hard to take, but we also knew it was only half-time in the tie and we had the chance to turn it around in the second leg at Stamford Bridge.

Unfortunately, we were not able to make the most of our opportunities on Wednesday night and despite winning 1-0, we are out of the Champions League.

It's frustrating because we were in control for most of the game. We corrected the defensive issues we had previously and created some really big chances to score in both halves. At the end of the game we hit the post twice and then finally managed to get a goal, through Sjoeke, but overall we were not clinical enough in this tie.

Now we have to turn our focus to some really big games in the FA Cup and the WSL, to make sure we achieve our objectives in those competitions.

WOMEN 2025/26

Date	Opposition		Res
SEPTEMBER			
Fri 5	Manchester City	H2	2-1
Sun 14	Aston Villa	A	3-1
Sun 21	Leicester City	H1	1-0
Sun 28	West Ham United	A	4-0
OCTOBER			
Fri 3	Manchester United	A	1-1
Wed 8	FC Twente *(UWCL MD1)*	A	1-1
Sun 12	Tottenham Hotspur	H1	1-0
Wed 15	Paris FC *(UWCL MD2)*	H2	4-0
NOVEMBER			
Sat 1	London City Lionesses	H2	2-0
Sat 8	Arsenal	A	1-1
Tue 11	St Polten *(UWCL MD3)*	A	6-0
Sun 16	Liverpool	A	1-1
Thu 20	Barcelona *(UWCL MD4)*	H2	1-1
DECEMBER			
Sun 7	Everton	H1	0-1
Wed 10	Roma *(UWCL MD5)*	H2	6-0
Sun 14	Brighton & Hove Albion	A	3-0
Wed 17	Wolfsburg *(UWCL MD6)*	A	2-1
Sun 21	Liverpool *(WLC QF)*	A	9-1
JANUARY			
Sun 11	West Ham United	H1	5-0
Sat 17	Crystal Palace *(WFAC 4)*	H1	5-0
Wed 21	Manchester City *(WLC SF)*	A	1-0
Sat 24	Arsenal	H2	0-2
FEBRUARY			
Sun 1	Manchester City	A	1-5
Sun 8	Tottenham Hotspur	A	2-0
Sun 15	Liverpool	H1	2-0
Sun 22	Manchester United *(WFAC 5)*	H1	2-1*
MARCH			
Sun 15	Manchester United *(WLC final)*	AG	2-0
Wed 18	Brighton & Hove Albion	H1	2-1
Sat 21	London City Lionesses	A	1-1
Tue 24	Arsenal *(UWCL QF-1)*	A	1-3
Sun 29	Aston Villa	H1	4-3
APRIL			
Wed 1	Arsenal *(UWCL QF-2)*	H2	1-0*
Mon 6	Tottenham Hotspur *(WFAC QF, 1.30pm, TNT/Channel 4)*	H1	-
Sun 26	Everton *(12noon, Sky)*	A	-
MAY			
Sun 3	Leicester City *(3pm)*	A	-
Sat 16	Manchester United (1pm)	H2	-

H1 - Kingsmeadow Stadium. H2 - Stamford Bridge
AG - Ashton Gate, Bristol
UWCL - UEFA Women's Champions League
WFAC - Women's FA Cup
WLC - Women's League Cup
*After extra-time. *Lost 2-3 on aggregate

APPEARANCES 2025/26

Thompson 25+3, Walsh 25+2, Cuthbert 24+4, Carpenter 22+2, Hampton 22, Bright 21, Kaptein 20+11, Baltimore 20+9, Kaneryd 17+11, Buurman 17+2, Bronze 16+6, Nusken 15+9, Beever-Jones 15+6, Girma 15+2, James 14+6, Bjorn 11+1, Kerr 9+16, Peng 9, Macario 8+4, Charles 7+6, Reiten 6+11, Hamano 4+5, Buchanan 4+2, Potter 3+9, Jean-Francois 2+5, Sarwie 1+5

GOALS 2025/26

Kerr 11, Thompson 9, Kaneryd 7, Beever-Jones 6, Kaptein 6, Baltimore 5 (3 pens), James 5, Nusken 5 (1 pen), Bright 2, Bronze 2, Carpenter 2, Cuthbert 2, Girma 2, Hamano 2, Macario 2 (1 pen), Walsh 2, Reiten 1 (pen), Potter 1, own goals 5

BARCLAYS FA WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE TABLE

		Pld	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Manchester City	19	16	1	2	+40	49
2	**Chelsea**	**19**	**12**	**4**	**3**	**+18**	**40**
3	Arsenal	17	11	5	1	+26	38
4	Manchester United	19	11	5	3	+17	38
5	Tottenham Hotspur	19	9	2	8	-5	29
6	Brighton & Hove Albion	18	6	3	9	-1	21
7	London City Lionesses	19	6	3	10	-11	21
8	Everton	19	6	2	11	-9	20
9	Aston Villa	19	5	5	9	-14	20
10	Liverpool	19	4	5	10	-9	17
11	West Ham United	19	3	4	12	-25	13
12	Leicester City	18	2	3	13	-27	9

Correct up to and including 01.04.26

U21s

HARRY HUDSON

HEAD COACH

We have been in good form recently, and we've set some clear objectives for the boys, including trying to finish top of the Premier League 2. Thankfully we have brought that back into our own hands with the performances and results of late.

One of the things we have looked to do is treat the games as mini cup finals and I think that has helped us focus the boys on the importance of each match.

When we arrived at Wolves for our most recent fixture, it was quite a challenging surface, but we let the game settle and then, after the first 10 minutes, we took real control. That's when we started to create some really good opportunities.

Once the first goal came just before the half-hour, it was a question of how many could we get while we had the momentum? We then went to 2-0 and 3-0 up before half-time and I was really proud of the boys' understanding of when and how to progress the football against Wolves' structure. That allowed us to take control in their half and then push into the final third, before turning that pressure into chances to score.

We work quite a lot on trying to create overloads around the back post from crossing positions and we emphasise the importance and value of those moments in games. Maybe we're able to score complicated goals, but we also want to be able to score simple goals, and the first goal was a good example of that.

It was a fantastic cross from Ryan Kavuma-McQueen and both Jesse Derry and Harrison McMahon were in a position to score, after getting in between the Wolves defenders, but it was Jesse who got the goal on this occasion.

The second goal came from a set-piece, and that is something Andy Boughey leads on. We've been very successful this season with our output from set-plays, and it has become a weapon in our armoury, which always helps. We know we should get quite a lot of corners and wide free-kicks based on the way we play and the control we have, so we have to make the most of those moments and be threatening from them. Harrison was alive in the box again, he nipped in front of the defender and got a really important goal.

A few minutes later, Ryan's thunderbolt made it 3-0 and finished the half with an outstanding piece of quality. You could have had three or four goalies and they probably wouldn't have stopped that strike. We're lucky to have players of that individual quality, with the belief that they can score goals that will change games, but it's really important that we don't rely on just those moments and make the most of other situations we can capitalise on. That was why the variety of goals was so pleasing.

It was a really positive first-half performance, we scored some fantastic goals, through three different scorers, and I couldn't speak highly enough of the boys' approach.

In the second half, Wolves rallied and regrouped a little bit and we probably didn't quite reach the level that we wanted again, but it was a credit to the work the boys had done in the first half that we were in a position with daylight between them and us.

Then the fourth goal came for us around the hour mark. Reggie Walsh scored with one of his first touches after coming on. We won the ball high up the pitch, with some really good pressing, released Shimmy Mheuka, and then Reggie follows up with something we've been working on, which is his arrivals in the box and gambling on a loose ball. He managed to score by getting the tap-in off the goalkeeper at the back post.

It then became about managing the last phase of the game while also looking to get a little bit of rest for some of the boys that had played a lot of minutes up to that game, and were about to go on international duty as well.

So Ryan, Shimmy and Landon Emenalo were all rested for the last 20 minutes as we saw out a convincing win and kept another clean sheet. All in all, it was a pleasing evening. Four very different types of goals won us the game, and we value all of them equally as a group.

Jesse Derry celebrates after putting the Blues 1-0 up away at Wolverhampton Wanderers. We eventually went on to record a thumping 4-0 victory, with Ryan Kavuma-McQueen and Harrison McMahon (opposite page, top and bottom) also on the scoresheet before half-time

20.03.26, Premier League 2

Wolverhampton Wanderers 0

Chelsea 4

Derry 28, McMahon 35, Kavuma-McQueen 38, Walsh 61

Chelsea (4-3-3): Merrick; Antwi, Murray-Campbell, Wilson, Emenalo (Osagie 73); Harrison, McMahon, Dyer (Walsh 58); Kavuma-McQueen (Cardoso 73), Mheuka (c) (Washington 73), Derry

U21s 2025/26

Date	Opposition		Res
AUGUST			
Mon 18	Manchester City	H	3-1
Fri 22	Newcastle United	A	5-0
Tue 26	Shrewsbury Town *(FLT MD1)*	A	1-3
Fri 29	Aston Villa	A	2-1
SEPTEMBER			
Wed 17	Bayern Munich *(UYL MD1)*	A	3-2
Sat 20	Ipswich Town	H	2-4
Tue 23	Northampton Town *(FLT MD2)*	A	0-3
Sat 27	Stoke City	H	1-2
Tue 30	Benfica *(UYL MD2)*	HI	5-2
OCTOBER			
Sun 5	Burnley	A	1-0
Sat 18	Dinamo Zagreb *(PLIC MD1)*	H	1-2
Wed 22	Ajax *(UYL MD3)*	HI	6-3
Sat 25	Arsenal	H	2-1
Tue 28	Walsall *(FLT MD3)*	A	0-0*
Fri 31	Everton	A	0-1
NOVEMBER			
Wed 5	Qarabag *(UYL MD4)*	A	5-0
Sat 8	Reading	H	4-1
Tue 25	Barcelona *(UYL MD5)*	HI	1-1
DECEMBER			
Wed 3	Paris Saint-Germain *(PLIC MD2)*	H	1-3
Tue 9	Atalanta *(UYL MD6)*	A	3-1
JANUARY			
Wed 7	Benfica *(PLIC MD3)*	HI	2-6
Sat 10	Crystal Palace	HI	4-1
Mon 19	West Ham United	A	0-5
Wed 21	Real Sociedad *(PLIC MD4)*	H	2-3
Mon 26	Leicester City	A	2-1
Fri 30	Southampton	H	4-2
FEBRUARY			
Tue 3	PSV Eindhoven *(UYL Rd of 32)*	HI	1-1^
Sat 7	Blackburn Rovers	H	5-0
Fri 20	Leeds United	HI	2-2
Wed 25	Real Madrid *(UYL Rd of 16)*	A	0-1
MARCH			
Mon 2	Manchester United	A	2-0
Mon 9	Birmingham City	A	4-1
Sat 14	Sunderland	H	4-0
Fri 20	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	4-0
APRIL			
Fri 10	Fulham	A	-
Sat 25	PL2 play-off Rd of 16	-	-
MAY			
Sat 2	PL2 play-off QF	-	-
Sat 9	PL2 play-off SF	-	-
Sat 16	PL2 play-off final	-	-

All games kick off at 7pm unless stated
FLT - Football League Trophy
UYL - U19s UEFA Youth League
PLIC - Premier League International Cup
H - Kingsmeadow Stadium
HI - Cobham Training Ground
*Lost 2-4 on penalties. ^ Won 7-6 on penalties

APPEARANCES 2025/26

Antwi 27+1, Harrison 26+3, Murray-Campbell 26+1, Emenalo 22+2, Mheuka 22+2, Walsh 20+4, Derry 19+9, McMahon 19+7, Wilson 19+4, Cardoso 15+5, Kavuma-McQueen 15+5, Merrick 15, Subuloye 13, Ampah 10+3, Dyer 9+1, Bernal 9, Nicoll-Jazuli 8+5, Rak-Sakyi 8+4, D Richards 7+7, Osagie 6+4, Washington 6+3, Best 5+4, Olise 5+2, Ezenwata 5+1, Curd 5, L Richards 4+1, Barbour 3+9, Diakite 3+1, Disasi 3, Slonina 3, Waite 3, Holland 2+4, Runham 2+2, Tauriainen 2+2, Gordon 1+7, Rabbaj 1+3, Badu 1+2, Watson 1+1, Essugo 1, Lavia 1, Sands 1, Sharman-Lowe 1, Eboue 0+6, McCallum (trialist) 0+2, Sambou 0+2, Wade 0+2, Ebho 0+1, Hall 0+1, Pennie 0+1

GOALS 2025/26

Mheuka 23 (2 pens), Derry 12, Kavuma-McQueen 8, Murray-Campbell 7, Ampah 4, Cardoso 4, Walsh 4, Antwi 2, Dyer 2, Ezenwata 2, Gordon 2, McMahon 2, D Richards 2, Barbour 1, Harrison 1, Holland 1, Nicoll-Jazuli 1, Rabbaj 1, Runham 1, Tauriainen 1, own goal 1

PREMIER LEAGUE 2 TABLE

		Pld	GD	Pts
1	**Chelsea**	**19**	**+28**	**43**
2	Man Utd	18	+18	40
3	Man City	18	+36	37
4	Southampton	19	+8	36
5	Fulham	19	+15	35
6	Liverpool	20	+13	35
7	Ipswich	18	+1	35
8	West Ham	19	+10	30
9	Brighton	19	+13	29
10	Leicester	19	+5	28
11	C Palace	18	+5	28
12	Sunderland	19	+2	28
13	Tottenham	17	+6	26
14	Arsenal	18	-4	26
15	Middlesboro	19	+7	24
16	Aston Villa	16	-3	24
17	Nottm Forest	19	-2	23
18	Reading	19	-10	22
19	Stoke	18	-13	22
20	Wolves	18	-14	22
21	Everton	18	-7	21
22	Norwich	19	-7	20
23	Newcastle	18	-7	20
24	Leeds	18	-10	18
25	West Brom	19	-14	18
26	Birmingham	18	-23	16
27	Derby	17	-17	14
28	Burnley	19	-18	13
28	Blackburn	17	-18	11

Correct up to and including 01.04.26

DAN HOGAN

HEAD COACH

We've had a couple of big games since my last update, for different reasons. The first, against Tottenham, was a top-of-the-table clash and a really high-level game, which reflected the significance of the fixture.

It was great for the boys' development to be competing in a pressurised environment and to understand that getting a result was really important.

However, we started quite slowly and they set up slightly differently to what we had prepped for, so it took us a little bit of time to find our rhythm and get in tune. But after the first 20 minutes, we had a couple of big moments where we got into the box and probably should have capitalised on the chances to go into the break with a lead.

We adjusted a few things at half-time to give us a little bit more control and I thought our second-half performance showed how dominant we were overall. We were fantastic, playing the game in their half, and being really aggressive in every action. That inevitably led to us going 1-0 up on 77 minutes.

It came from a really good turnover in their half and we had spent loads of time in the week working on being able to push extra players onto the top line so we could serve our wingers in one-v-one situations. That creates crossing opportunities and then it becomes about attacking the box – and that is exactly what we did.

After winning the ball on the left, Dante Waite played a quick switch to find Sol Gordon on the right and he did really well in his duel, before delivering an early cross. We had good numbers in the box and Mathis Eboue was there to score at the back post, which is something we had talked about as a potential weapon we could use. It's always good to see wingers provide an assist for the opposite winger.

Unfortunately, they then managed to score a late equaliser, in the 85th minute, shortly after we'd had a big moment with Chizzy Ezenwata, when Reggie Walsh put him through on goal. It was quite a tight angle and he did well to dig it out on his weak foot, but it hit the post, and a couple minutes after that they managed to get behind us and their winger put a cross in while Dante was recovering. He tried to do everything to keep it out of the net but it was an own goal, which was unfortunate.

It was a really good game overall, and though we were probably unlucky not to win it after our second-half performance, we could be happy to get a result that meant it is still in our hands to catch them if we win our games in hand.

Mathis Eboue was on target in a 1-1 draw against Spurs. Opposite page, Jashayde Greenwood scores the goal that kick-starts the comeback against Reading and, bottom, Kobe Barbour celebrates his last-gasp winner to settle a five-goal thriller in our favour

17.03.26, Under-18 Premier League

Tottenham Hotspur 1
Own goal 85

Chelsea 1
Eboue 77

Chelsea (4-3-3): Bernal; L Richards, Waite (c), Subuloye, Diakite; Emenalo, Walsh, Nicoll-Jazuli (Watson 62); Barbour (Gordon 66), Ezenwata, Eboue

Our next game, at home to Reading, was another one where, similarly to West Bromwich Albion recently, the opponent had two shots in the whole game and scored two goals. So that is definitely something we're looking at to see how we can be better at keeping the ball out of our net when we are still limiting the opponents to very few opportunities.

That was the frustrating part of the performance, but there was also an upside as we came back to win the game from two goals down at the break.

It was a case of understanding the situation we were facing, and the message at half-time was to make sure the boys remembered we were creating a lot of opportunities, and we had also missed a penalty in the first half.

We knew we needed to keep going at them and we went out in the second half creating chances again. The Reading keeper made some good saves and we just couldn't quite find the back of the net, which has been a consistent theme at times. But then, from the 84th minute onwards, we managed to score three goals in six minutes to win it 3-2. That was the ruthless nature that we've been looking for.

Once the first one went in, we knew they were a little bit deflated and we'd had them pinned back for much of the half, so you could see that something was going to eventually fall for us.

The boys showed unbelievable character to keep pushing but also to not change anything that they were doing right and start chasing the game. That was a real credit to the boys who inevitably started scoring. The last goal was an unbelievable finish from Kobe Barbour and it was nice to see them celebrate together and really value winning, which is something we're trying to instil in the Under-18s.

21.03.26, Under-18 Premier League

Chelsea 3
Greenwood 84, Ezenwata 85, Barbour 90

Reading 2
Ntege 13, 41

Chelsea (4-3-3): Bell; Ebho (Ezenwata h/t), L Richards, Waite (c), Diakite; Subuloye, Nicoll-Jazuli, Eboue; Barbour, Greenwood, Gordon (Hall 90+2)

U18s 2025/26

Date	Opposition		Res
AUGUST			
Sat 23	Crystal Palace	A	4-2
Tue 26	Sheffield United *(U18 PLC MD1)*	H	3-3
Sat 30	Aston Villa	H	6-1
SEPTEMBER			
Sat 13	Arsenal	A	1-1
Tue 16	Charlton Athletic *(U17 PLC MD1)*	H	2-2
Sat 20	Brighton & Hove Albion	H	4-0
Sat 27	West Bromwich Albion	A	4-1
Tue 30	Southampton *(U17 PLC MD2)*	A	3-1
OCTOBER			
Sat 4	Manchester City *(U18 PLC MD2)*	A	2-3
Sat 18	Tottenham Hotspur	H	2-2
Tue 21	Brighton & Hove Albion *(U17 PLC MD3)*	H	1-3
NOVEMBER			
Sat 8	Norwich City	H	0-0
Sat 22	Crystal Palace *(U18 PLC MD3)*	A	0-4
Sat 29	West Ham United	A	2-1
DECEMBER			
Sat 6	Ipswich Town	A	3-0
Tue 16	Brentford *(FAYC 3)*	A	2-1
JANUARY			
Sat 10	Birmingham City	H	3-1
Wed 14	Reading *(FAYC 4)*	A	3-2
Sat 17	Leicester City	A	5-1
Tue 27	Reading	A	3-1
Sat 31	Norwich City	A	3-1
FEBRUARY			
Mon 9	Manchester City *(FAYC 5)*	H1	1-4
Sat 14	Aston Villa	A	1-2
Sat 21	Southampton	H	3-0
MARCH			
Tue 3	Fulham	H	2-3
Sat 7	West Bromwich Albion	H	0-1
Sat 14	Brighton & Hove Albion	A	3-0
Tue 17	Tottenham Hotspur	A	1-1
Sat 21	Reading	H	3-2
APRIL			
Sat 4	Crystal Palace	H	-
Tue 7	Arsenal *(12pm)*	H	-
Sat 11	West Ham United	H	-
Tue 14	Southampton	A	-
Sat 18	Fulham	A	-
Sat 25	Ipswich Town *(12pm)*	H	-
MAY			
Sat 2	Birmingham City *(12pm)*	A	-
Sat 9	Leicester City *(12pm)*	H	-

All games kick off at 11am unless stated
U18 PLC - U18s Premier League Cup
U17 PLC - U17s Premier League Cup
FAYC - FA Youth Cup
H - Cobham Training Ground
H1 - Kingsmeadow Stadium

APPEARANCES 2025/26

Waite 22+3, L Richards 21+3, Ezenwata 19+3, Eboue 18+6, Holland 18, Gordon 17+8, Diakite 17+5, Subuloye 17, Barbour 15+6, Nicoll-Jazuli 14, Ebho 13+1, Rabbaj 12+4, Badu 11+3, Watson 11+3, Bernal 11+1, Sands 9, Walsh 8, Hall 7+5, Emenalo 6, Greenwood 5+10, Atherton 5+4, McGlinchey 5+4, Grimwade 4+8, Bell 4, Collinson 4, Kavuma-McQueen 4, Wheeler-Henry 4, Isago Silva 3+5, Philbert 3+2, Alao 3, Mheuka 3, Pennie 1+4, Sambou 1+2, Ayinde 1+1, Jobling 1+1, Barratt 1, Idrissi 0+3, Faromo-Adebayo 0+2, Malundama 0+1, McGillvary 0+1

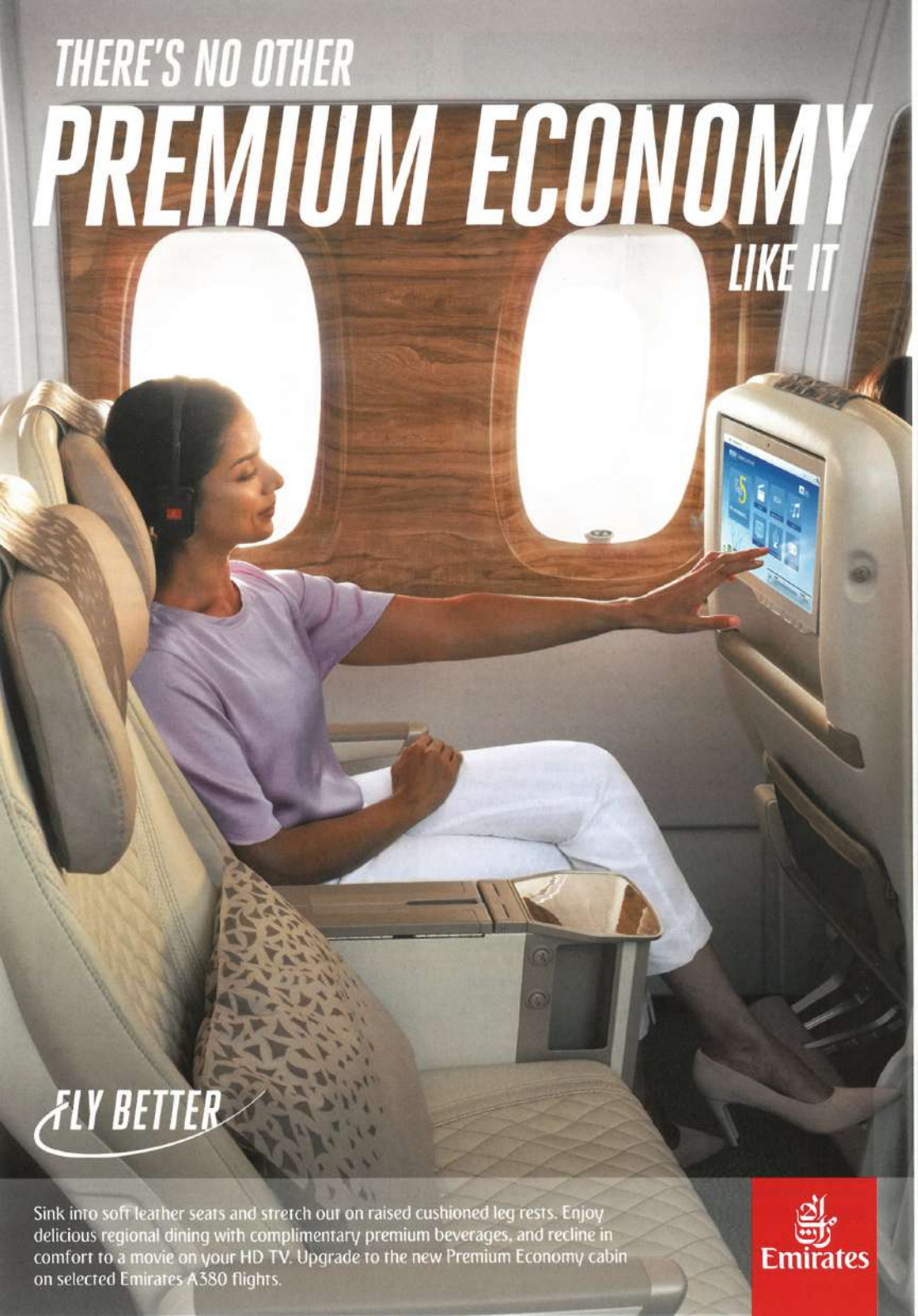
GOALS 2025/26

Ezenwata 16 (6 pens), Gordon 8 (1 pen), Barbour 6, Eboue 5, Watson 5 (2 pens), Rabbaj 4, Greenwood 3, Grimwade 3 (2 pens), Kavuma-McQueen 3, L Richards 3, Atherton 2, Pennie 2, Subuloye 2, Walsh 2, Barratt 1, Malundama 1, Nicoll-Jazuli 1, own goals 3

UNDER-18 PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

		Pld	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Tottenham	22	14	5	3	+34	47
2	**Chelsea**	**20**	**13**	**4**	**3**	**+32**	**43**
3	Crystal Palace	20	11	3	6	+25	36
4	Brighton	22	10	6	6	+13	36
5	Leicester	23	10	4	9	+2	34
6	West Bromwich	20	10	3	7	+11	33
7	Aston Villa	19	10	2	7	+7	32
8	West Ham	19	9	2	8	+5	29
9	Fulham	22	8	4	10	-7	28
10	Arsenal	20	7	4	9	-8	25
11	Southampton	18	7	2	9	-1	23
12	Birmingham	24	6	2	16	-48	20
13	Norwich	22	4	7	11	-14	19
14	Reading	21	4	6	11	-20	18
15	Ipswich	20	5	2	13	-31	17

Correct up to and including 01.04.26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NUMBERS GAME

WORDS • PAUL DUTTON

Chelsea have advanced from our past six FA Cup quarter-final ties and nine of our last 10. Our most recent exit at this stage was a 2-0 defeat away to Everton in 2016, while our last home loss in the last eight was against Arsenal in 2003. Overall, we have progressed from 27 of our 40 quarter-final ties in the competition.

The Blues have progressed from 64 of our last 66 FA Cup ties against sides from a lower division, including the last 25 in a row. The last team from outside the Premier League to beat the Blues in the FA Cup was Bradford City at Stamford Bridge in 2015. The Bantams were sixth in League One at the time and beat us 4-2 in the fourth round.

This is only the fourth time we'll have met a side from the third tier in an FA Cup quarter-final tie, and we've never played a side lower down the pyramid at this stage of the competition. The previous ties were against Peterborough United (1964/65, h, W 5-1), Hull City (1965/66, replay, a, W 3-1) and Gillingham (1999/00, h, W 5-0).

Chelsea are the first league team to score four or more goals in three away games in an FA Cup campaign since Derby County managed it in 1945/46.

CHELSEA IN THE FA CUP THIS SEASON

Third round	Charlton Athletic (first meeting for 19 years) W 5-1
Fourth round	Hull City (first meeting for six years) W 4-0
Fifth round	Wrexham (first meeting for 44 years) W 4-2 aet
Quarter-finals	Port Vale (first meeting for 97 years)

Port Vale have reached the FA Cup quarter-finals for only the second time in their history (also 1953/54), and they have eliminated a Premier League opponent (Sunderland) from the competition for the first time since 1995/96 against Everton in the fourth round. They are also the first league team to win four consecutive FA Cup games 1-0 at home.

PORT VALE IN THE FA CUP THIS SEASON

Round	Opponent	Score
First round	Maldon & Tiptree (h)	W 5-1
Second round	Bristol Rovers (h)	W 1-0
Third round	Fleetwood Town (h)	W 1-0
Fourth round	Bristol City (h)	W 1-0 aet
Fifth round	Sunderland (h)	W 1-0

This is the first time we have been drawn at home in a single leg League Cup or FA Cup tie this season.

LAST FIVE HOME FA CUP TIES

Date	Round	Opponent	Score
06.01.24	Third round	Preston North End	W 4-0
26.01.24	Fourth round	Aston Villa	D 0-0
28.02.24	Fifth Round	Leeds United	W 3-2
17.03.24	Quarter-final	Leicester City	W 4-2
11.01.25	Third round	Morecambe	W 5-0

We will play our 50th game of the season today, and 114th since the beginning of the 2024/25 campaign. Enzo Fernandez has appeared in the most games this term (46/49), followed by Pedro Neto 44 and Joao Pedro 43. We need four more goals to reach 100 for the season.

Among all Premier League players, Joao Pedro (11) has scored more goals in all competitions than anyone else in 2026.

Enzo Fernandez captained Chelsea for the 50th time in our last home game against PSG.

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Everyone at Chelsea is deeply saddened by the passing of Silvino Louro last month at the age of 67. He worked at the club in both of Jose Mourinho's spells in the dugout, as a goalkeeper coach and then as assistant coach, as we won three Premier League titles, an FA Cup and three League Cups.

INTERNATIONAL ROUND-UP

Thirty-two Chelsea players represented their countries in the March international break, including 12 from the first-team squad. Across six age groups our players scored 13 goals. Congratulations to former Blues Carney Chukwuemeka and Harvey Vale, who both made their senior international debuts for Austria and Republic of Ireland respectively.

Port Vale had Ben Waine (New Zealand) and Liam Gordon (Guyana) away on international duty, taking their total of senior internationals in their 150-year history to 18.

Senior: Argentina: Enzo Fernandez (1 goal), **Brazil:** Joao Pedro, Andrey Santos, **Ecuador:** Moises Caicedo, Kendry Paez, **England:** Cole Palmer, **France:** Malo Gusto, **Netherlands:** Jorrel Hato, **Portugal:** Pedro Neto, **Senegal:** Nicolas Jackson (1 goal), Mamadou Sarr, **Spain:** Marc Cucurella.

Under-21s: Belgium: Mike Penders (1 clean sheet), **England:** Josh Acheampong, Tyrique George, **Finland:** Jimi Tauriainen (1 goal), **Sweden:** Genesis Antwi, **USA:** Gabriel Slonina.

Under-20s: England: Jimmy-Jay Morgan, Harrison Murray-Campbell.

Under-19s: England: Jesse Derry (2 goals), Shumaira Mheuka (2 goals), **Republic of Ireland:** Chris Atherton.

Under-18s: England: Freddy Bernal (1 clean sheet), Landon Emenalo, Chizaram Ezenwata (3 goals), Reggie Walsh.

Under-17s: England: Calvin Diakite, Ryan Kavuma-McQueen (3 goals), Mahdi Nicoll-Jazuli, **Morocco:** Ibrahim Rabbaj, **Portugal:** Isaac Badu

PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

		Pld	GD	Pts
1	Arsenal	31	+39	70
2	Manchester City	30	+32	61
3	Manchester Utd	31	+13	55
4	Aston Villa	31	+5	54
5	Liverpool	31	+8	49
6	**Chelsea**	**31**	**+15**	**48**
7	Brentford	31	+4	46
8	Everton	31	+2	46
9	Fulham	31	-1	44
10	Brighton	31	+4	43
11	Sunderland	31	-4	43
12	Newcastle	31	-1	42
13	Bournemouth	31	-2	42
14	Crystal Palace	30	-2	39
15	Leeds	31	-11	33
16	Nottm Forest	31	-12	32
17	Tottenham	31	-10	30
18	West Ham	31	-21	29
19	Burnley	31	-28	20
20	Wolves	31	-30	17

Correct up to and including 22.03.26

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

		Pld	GD	Pts
1	Lincoln City	38	+40	84
2	Cardiff City	39	+32	77
3	Bolton Wanderers	39	+16	66
4	Bradford City	39	+5	65
5	Stockport County	38	+6	63
6	Reading	40	+9	61
7	Stevenage	38	+3	60
8	Wycombe Wanderers	40	+16	59
9	Plymouth Argyle	39	+6	59
10	Huddersfield Town	39	+8	57
11	Luton Town	39	+3	55
12	Peterborough United	38	+5	50
13	Barnsley	37	-1	50
14	AFC Wimbledon	39	-9	50
15	Doncaster Rovers	39	-17	50
16	Mansfield Town	37	+6	49
17	Leyton Orient	39	-7	49
18	Burton Albion	40	-11	46
19	Wigan Athletic	39	-13	45
20	Blackpool	40	-16	45
21	Exeter City	40	-10	43
22	Rotherham United	38	-23	36
23	Northampton Town	39	-23	35
24	**Port Vale**	**38**	**-25**	**31**

Correct up to and including 26.03.26

PLAYER STATISTICS 2025/26

	Age	APPEARANCES PL	UCL	FAC	LC	Total	Minutes	GOALS/CLEAN SHEETS PL	UCL	FAC	LC	Total	Total CFC apps, goals & clean sheets
Acheampong	19	7+5	1+4	2+1	3+1	13+11	1327	1	-	1	-	2	23+15 2
Badiashile	25	6+2	3+1	2	1+1	12+4	1188	-	-	-	-	-	61+10 2
Buonanotte*	21	1	2+1	1	3	7+1	553	-	-	-	1	1	7+1 1
Caicedo	24	25+1	9+1	2	2+1	38+3	3727	3	2	-	-	5	130+9 8
Chalobah	26	29	6+2	-	3+1	38+3	3764	3	-	-	-	3	118+27 8
Colwill	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67+8 3
Cucurella	27	24+3	8+1	0+1	2+2	34+7	3413	1	-	-	-	1	132+22 9
Delap	23	9+13	1+4	2+1	1+1	13+19	1412	1	1	-	-	2	17+21 3
Derry	18	-	-	0+2	-	0+2	44	-	-	-	-	-	0+2 -
Essugo	21	-	-	0+1	-	0+1	72	-	-	-	-	-	0+4 -
Estevao Willian	18	10+10	4+3	1+1	2+2	17+16	1669	2	3	1	1	7	17+16 7
Fernandez	25	29+1	9+1	0+2	3+1	41+5	4030	8	3	1	-	12	144+17 28
W Fofana	25	14+5	5+1	1+1	3	23+7	2300	-	-	-	-	-	54+10 2
Garnacho	21	14+6	3+6	3	1+3	21+15	2110	1	1	1	4	7	21+15 7
George*	20	0+4	2+2	-	3	5+6	542	-	1	-	2	3	15+22 6
Gittens	21	5+11	3+4	1	3	12+15	1236	-	-	-	1	1	12+15 1
Guiu	20	1+6	1	1+1	2	5+7	581	-	1	1	-	2	12+16 8
Gusto	22	20+8	6+1	0+1	3+1	29+11	2776	2	1	-	-	3	85+40 3
Hato	20	6+10	4	3	4+1	17+11	1742	-	-	1	-	1	17+11 1
James	26	20+7	7+1	1	-	28+8	2781	2	-	-	-	2	169+57 16
Joao Pedro	24	27+4	6+2	0+1	2+1	35+8	3388	14	3	1	-	18	37+9 21
Jorgensen	23	2+1	3	1	3	9+1	943	-	1	-	-	1	33+1 11
Lavia	22	2+6	2+2	1	1	6+8	525	-	-	-	-	-	21+16 -
Mheuka	18	-	-	0+1	0+2	0+3	44	-	-	-	-	-	1+7 -
Neto	26	25+4	8	2+1	1+3	36+8	3447	5	-	4	1	10	75+20 19
Palmer	23	18+2	3+1	-	0+1	21+4	1894	9	1	-	-	10	108+14 53
Sanchez	28	29	7+1	2	2	40+1	3971	9	2+1	1	-	12+1	101+1 30+1
Santos	21	10+13	3+3	3	5	21+16	2264	-	-	-	1	1	22+19 1
Sarr	20	1+1	1	2	-	4+1	303	-	-	-	-	-	4+2 0
Tosin	28	7+8	3+2	2+1	2+1	14+12	1621	-	-	1	-	1	47+20 6
Walsh	17	-	0+1	-	0+1	0+2	30	-	-	-	-	-	1+3 -

Correct up to and including 21.03.26. *Returned to Brighton from their loan spell. *On loan at Everton.

FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Opposition		KO/Res	Attendance	Formation	Starting XI						Used substitutes									
AUGUST																					
Sun 17	Crystal Palace	H	0-0	39,678	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Acheampong	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez	Palmer	Gittens	Joao Pedro	Estevao (54)	Delap (73)	Santos (79)	Gusto (79)	
Fri 22	West Ham United	A	5-1	62,462	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Tosin	Cucurella	Caicedo	Estevao	Joao Pedro	Fernandez (c)	Neto	Delap	Santos (62)	James (69)	Hato (69)	W Fofana (69)	Gittens (77)
Sat 30	Fulham	H	2-0	39,745	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Tosin	Cucurella	Caicedo	Estevao	Joao Pedro	Fernandez (c)	Neto	Delap	George (14)	Gittens (68)	Santos (81)	James (81)	
SEPTEMBER																					
Sat 13	Brentford	A	2-2	16,795	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	W Fofana	Tosin	Chalobah	Hato	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez (c)	Buonanotte	Gittens	Joao Pedro	George (h/t)	Cucurella (h/t)	James (h/t)	Palmer (56)	Garnacho (79)
Wed 17	Bayern Munich *(UCL MD1)*	A	1-3	75,000	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Tosin	Cucurella	Caicedo	Palmer	James (c)	Fernandez	Neto	Joao Pedro	Garnacho (68)	Santos (68)	Estevao (81)		
Sat 20	Manchester United	A	1-2	73,991	4-1-4-1	Sanchez (5)	James (c)	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez	Palmer	Estevao	Joao Pedro	Jorgensen (6)	Tosin (7)	Santos (21)	George (64)	Gusto (64)
Tue 23	Lincoln City *(CC3)*	A	2-1	10,214	4-1-4-1	Jorgensen	Gusto	Chalobah	W Fofana	Hato	Santos	Gittens	Buonanotte	Fernandez (c)	Garnacho	George	Estevao (59)	Mheuka (70)	Cucurella (70)	Neto (70)	Walsh (90+5)
Sat 27	Brighton & Hove Albion	H	1-3	39,597	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah (53)	Hato	Cucurella	Caicedo	Estevao	Santos	Fernandez	Neto	Joao Pedro	Acheampong (54)	Gusto (63)	Badiashile (79)	Lavia (79)	
Tue 30	Benfica *(UCL MD2)*	H	1-0	38,636	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Badiashile	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Buonanotte	Fernandez (c)	Garnacho	George	Estevao (54)	Joao Pedro (61) (90+6)	Gittens (61)	James (81)	Acheampong (81)
OCTOBER																					
Sat 4	Liverpool	H	2-1	39,769	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Acheampong	Badiashile	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Gusto	Fernandez	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Lavia (55)	Hato (68)	Estevao (75)	Guiu (75)	Gittens (75)
Sat 18	Nottingham Forest	A	3-0	30,495	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Acheampong	Chalobah	Cucurella	Lavia	Neto	Gusto (87)	Santos	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Caicedo (h/t)	Gittens (h/t)	Guiu (h/t)	Estevao (78)	Tosin (81)
Wed 22	Ajax *(UCL MD3)*	H	5-1	38,947	4-1-4-1	Jorgensen	Caicedo	W Fofana	Tosin	Hato	Lavia	Estevao	Buonanotte	Fernandez (c)	Gittens	Guiu	George (h/t)	Santos (h/t)	Chalobah (h/t)	Acheampong (49)	Walsh (66)
Sat 25	Sunderland	H	1-2	39,579	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah	Acheampong	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez	Joao Pedro	Garnacho	Guiu	Estevao (58)	Gittens (76)	Tosin (76)	Santos (85)	George (85)
Wed 29	Wolverhampton Wanderers *(CC4)*	A	4-3	24,449	4-1-4-1	Jorgensen	Gusto	Acheampong	Tosin (c)	Hato	Lavia	Estevao	Buonanotte	Santos	Gittens	George	Cucurella (60)	Fernandez (61)	Delap (61) (86)	Neto (76)	Caicedo (85)
NOVEMBER																					
Sat 1	Tottenham Hotspur	A	1-0	61,202	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	James (c)	Fernandez	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Gittens (66)	Lavia (76)	Estevao (85)	Tosin (89)	
Wed 5	Qarabag *(UCL MD4)*	A	2-2	30,887	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Tosin	Hato	Cucurella	Lavia	Estevao	Santos	Joao Pedro	Gittens	George	Caicedo (8)	Fernandez (h/t)	Garnacho (h/t)	Delap (h/t)	Buonanotte (71)
Sat 8	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	3-0	39,467	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Joao Pedro	Fernandez (c)	Garnacho	Delap	Estevao (64)	James (77)	Guiu (77)	Santos (83)	Gittens (83)
Sat 22	Burnley	A	2-0	21,499	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Tosin	Chalobah	Cucurella	Santos	Neto	Fernandez	Joao Pedro	Gittens	Delap	Badiashile (h/t)	Gusto (67)	Guiu (76)		
Tue 25	Barcelona *(UCL MD5)*	H	3-0	39,323	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Estevao	James (c)	Fernandez	Garnacho	Neto	Santos (h/t)	Delap (59)	Gittens (75)	Acheampong (82)	George (83)
Sun 30	Arsenal	H	1-1	39,820	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo (38)	Estevao	James (c)	Fernandez	Neto	Joao Pedro	Garnacho (h/t)	Delap (55)			
DECEMBER																					
Wed 3	Leeds United	A	1-3	36,767	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Chalobah	Tosin	Badiashile	Cucurella	Santos	Estevao	Fernandez (c)	Joao Pedro	Gittens	Delap	Neto (h/t)	Gusto (h/t)	Garnacho (61)	Palmer (61)	Guiu (77)
Sat 6	Bournemouth	A	0-0	11,240	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	James (c)	Neto	Fernandez	Palmer	Garnacho	Delap	Guiu (32)	Joao Pedro (58)	Estevao (77)		
Tue 9	Atalanta *(UCL MD6)*	A	1-2	20,685	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Acheampong	Chalobah	Badiashile	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez	James (c)	Gittens	Joao Pedro	W Fofana (h/t)	Garnacho (66)	Gusto (67)	Tosin (76)	
Sat 13	Everton	H	2-0	39,552	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	James (c)	Neto	Palmer	Fernandez	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Santos (58)	Gittens (65)	Estevao (81)		
Tue 16	Cardiff City *(CC QF)*	A	3-1	33,027	4-2-3-1	Jorgensen	Acheampong	Tosin	Badiashile	Hato	Santos	Caicedo (c)	George	Buonanotte	Gittens	Guiu	Joao Pedro (h/t)	Garnacho (h/t)	Neto (66)	Gusto (66)	Chalobah (84)
Sat 20	Newcastle United	A	2-2	52,226	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	James (c)	Caicedo	Neto	Palmer	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Fernandez (54)	Santos (79)			
Sat 27	Aston Villa	H	1-2	39,765	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah	Badiashile	Cucurella	Caicedo	Neto	Palmer	Fernandez	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Gusto (69)	Delap (69)	Gittens (69)	Estevao (72)	
Tue 30	Bournemouth	H	2-2	39,622	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Acheampong	W Fofana	Chalobah	Gusto	Caicedo	Estevao	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Garnacho	Delap	Neto (h/t)	James (h/t)	Joao Pedro (63)	Santos (87)	Gittens (90+2)
JANUARY																					
Sun 4	Manchester City	A	1-1	52,503	4-2-3-1	Jorgensen	Acheampong	Chalobah	Badiashile	Gusto	James (c)	Fernandez	Estevao	Palmer	Neto	Joao Pedro	Santos (h/t)	Delap (62)	Hato (62)		
Wed 7	Fulham	A	1-2	26,990	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Tosin	Cucurella (22)	Caicedo	Palmer	Santos	Fernandez (c)	Neto	Delap	Hato (28)	James (65)	Joao Pedro (75)	Acheampong (76)	
Sat 10	Charlton Athletic *(FAC 3)*	A	5-1	26,475	3-2-4-1	Jorgensen	Acheampong	Tosin	Badiashile	Caicedo (c)	Santos	Gittens	Buonanotte	Hato	Garnacho	Guiu	Estevao (66)	Fernandez (69)	Delap (69)	Neto (85)	W Fofana (85)
Wed 14	Arsenal *(CC SF-1)*	H	2-3	39,243	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Acheampong	Chalobah	W Fofana	Cucurella	Santos	Fernandez (c)	Estevao	Joao Pedro	Neto	Guiu	Garnacho (53)	Badiashile (53)	Hato (75)	Mheuka (81)	Tosin (81)
Sat 17	Brentford	H	2-0	39,704	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah	Tosin	Cucurella	Caicedo	Fernandez	Neto	Palmer	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Santos (57)	W Fofana (58)	Delap (74)	Hato (85)	Acheampong (85)
Wed 21	Pafos *(UCL MD7)*	H	1-0	39,200	4-2-3-1	Jorgensen	Gusto	W Fofana	Badiashile	Hato	James (c)	Caicedo	Neto	Fernandez	Garnacho	Delap	Sanchez (h/t)	Estevao (h/t)	Joao Pedro (70)	Gittens (70)	Cucurella (70)
Sun 25	Crystal Palace	A	3-1	25,163	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah	Badiashile	Cucurella	Santos	Caicedo	Estevao	Fernandez	Neto	Joao Pedro	W Fofana (73)	Gittens (74)	Gusto (74)	Hato (81)	Delap (85)
Wed 28	Napoli *(UCL MD8)*	A	3-2	46,513	3-4-2-1	Sanchez	James (c)	W Fofana	Cucurella	Gusto	Caicedo	Santos	Neto	Estevao	Fernandez	Joao Pedro	Palmer (h/t)	Gittens (59)	Chalobah (59)	Garnacho (74)	Badiashile (90)
Sat 31	West Ham United	H	3-2	39,430	4-1-4-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Chalobah	Badiashile	Hato	Caicedo	Gittens	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Garnacho	Delap	Neto (26)	Joao Pedro (h/t)	Cucurella (h/t)	W Fofana (h/t)	James (81)
FEBRUARY																					
Tue 3	Arsenal *(CC SF-2)*	A	0-1*	59,452	3-4-2-1	Sanchez	W Fofana	Chalobah	Hato	Gusto	Caicedo	Santos	Cucurella	Delap	Fernandez (c)	Joao Pedro	Estevao (60)	Palmer (60)	Garnacho (75)	Acheampong (87)	
Sat 7	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	3-1	29,762	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	Santos	Caicedo	Neto	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Joao Pedro	Garnacho (61)	Delap (75)	Acheampong (75)	Hato (84)	
Tue 10	Leeds United	H	2-2	39,253	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Gusto	Acheampong	Chalobah	Cucurella	Caicedo	Santos	Estevao	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Joao Pedro	Hato (h/t)	Neto (64)	W Fofana (79)	Delap (79)	
Fri 13	Hull City *(FAC 4)*	A	4-0	24,320	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	James (c)	W Fofana	Sarr	Hato	Caicedo	Santos	Estevao	Neto	Garnacho	Delap	Acheampong (60)	Fernandez (81)	Derry (77)	Tosin (77)	Mheuka (88)
Sat 21	Burnley	H	1-1	39,603	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	James (c)	W Fofana (72)	Chalobah	Gusto	Caicedo	Santos	Fernandez	Palmer	Neto	Joao Pedro	Tosin (75)	Hato (80)	Delap (80)	Sarr (88)	Acheampong (89)
MARCH																					
Sun 1	Arsenal	A	1-2	60,296	4-3-3	Sanchez	James (c)	Chalobah	Sarr	Hato	Caicedo	Santos	Fernandez	Neto (70)	Joao Pedro	Palmer	Lavia (75)	Gusto (75)	Delap (86)	Garnacho (86)	Tosin (90)
Wed 4	Aston Villa	A	4-1	42,084	4-3-3	Jorgensen	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Hato	James (c)	Caicedo	Fernandez	Palmer	Joao Pedro	Garnacho	Lavia (75)	Tosin (79)	Cucurella (79)	Delap (85)	Santos (85)
Sat 7	Wrexham *(FAC 5)*	A	4-2**	10,556	3-4-2-1	Sanchez	Sarr	Tosin (c)	Badiashile	Acheampong	Santos	Lavia	Hato	Neto	Garnacho	Delap	Guiu (58)	Cucurella (65)	Essugo (65)	Joao Pedro (85)	Gusto (85)
Wed 11	Paris Saint-Germain *(UCL R16-1)*	A	2-5	47,566	4-2-3-1	Jorgensen	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	James (c)	Caicedo	Palmer	Fernandez	Neto	Joao Pedro	Lavia (83)	Delap (83)	Garnacho (88)		Derry (100)
Sat 14	Newcastle United	H	0-1	39,587	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Chalobah	Cucurella	James (c)	Caicedo	Palmer	Fernandez	Garnacho	Joao Pedro	Delap (h/t)	Lavia (61)	Hato (82)		
Tue 17	Paris Saint-Germain *(UCL R16-2)*	H	0-3^	37,242	3-4-2-1	Sanchez	Sarr	Chalobah	Hato	Neto	Santos	Caicedo	Cucurella	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Joao Pedro	Acheampong (h/t)	Garnacho (58)	Delap (59)	Lavia (60)	Tosin (71)
Sat 21	Everton	A	0-3	52,547	4-2-3-1	Sanchez	Gusto	W Fofana	Hato	Cucurella	Lavia	Caicedo	Palmer	Fernandez (c)	Neto	Joao Pedro	Garnacho (h/t)	Santos (57)	Estevao (70)	Tosin (78)	Delap (78)
APRIL																					
Sat 4	Port Vale *(FAC QF, BBC & TNT)*	H	5.15pm																		
Sun 12	Manchester City *(Sky)*	H	4.30pm																		
Sat 18	Manchester United *(TNT)*	H	8pm																		
Sun 26∞	Brighton & Hove Albion *(Sky)*	A	4.30pm																		
Sat 25	FAC SF	W	-																		
MAY																					
Mon 4	Nottingham Forest *(Sky)*	H	3pm																		
Sat 9°	Liverpool *(TNT)*	A	12.30pm																		
Sat 16	FAC final	W	-																		
Sun 17	Tottenham Hotspur	H	-																		
Sun 24	Sunderland	A	4pm																		

> The tie will be completed today, with extra time and penalties if necessary. Chelsea won our last penalty shoot-out 4-2 against Newcastle in a League Cup quarter-final in December 2023, while Port Vale lost their only penalty shoot-out this season to Fleetwood Town in the Football League Trophy.

> VAR is in operation for all fixtures at this stage of the FA Cup.

> The draw for the semi-finals, which are scheduled to be played at Wembley over the weekend of 25/26 April, is tomorrow afternoon. If Chelsea progress, our Premier League game at Brighton & Hove Albion on Sunday 26 April will be rearranged.

Fixtures correct at time of going to press and are subject to change. Chelsea score shown first. W - Wembley Stadium.
UCL - UEFA Champion's League. CC - Carabao Cup. FAC - FA Cup. *Lost 2-4 on aggregate. **After extra-time. ^Lost 2-8 on aggregate.

2025/26 FA CUP YELLOW CARDS

Badiashile **1**, Garnacho **1**, Lavia **1**, Neto **1**, Santos **1**, Sarr **1**

In the FA Cup, two bookings will result in a one-match suspension. All yellow cards accumulated in the earlier rounds are wiped clean after the quarter-final stage meaning players cannot miss the semi-final or final due to yellow card accumulation.

2025/26 UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

Jorgensen **28**, Guiu **25**, Acheampong **21**, Hato **18**, Badiashile **15**, W Fofana **10**, Santos **10**, Sharman-Lowe **10**, Tosin **10**, Garnacho **9**, George **9**, Buonanotte **8**, Merrick **8**, Gittens **7**, Essugo **6**, James **6**, Sanchez **6**, Sarr **6**, Estevao **5**, Slonina **5**, Chalobah **4**, Joao Pedro **4**, Gusto **3**, Lavia **3**, Caicedo **2**, Emenalo **2**, Kavuma-McQueen **2**, Mheuka **2**, Walsh **2**, Cucurella **1**, Curd **1**, Delap **1**, Fernandez **1**, Harrison **1**, Holland **1**, Neto **1**, Palmer **1**.

Own goals: Rios (Benfica h), Kounde (Barcelona h), Hincapie (Arsenal a), Okonkwo (Wrexham a).
∞Will change should we progress to the FA Cup semi-final. °This match will move to 8pm if Liverpool reach the Champions League semi-finals.

Goal ● Penalty scored ● Penalty missed ● Penalty save ✚ Own goal ●

Booked ■ Straight red card ■ Sent-off for two bookings ■ First sub Second sub Third sub Fourth sub Fifth sub Sixth sub

MEN'S HONOURS LIST

FOOTBALL LEAGUE/PREMIER LEAGUE
1955, 2005, 2006, 2010, 2015, 2017

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
2012, 2021

FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP
2025

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE
2013, 2019

UEFA CONFERENCE LEAGUE
2025

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP
1971, 1998

UEFA SUPER CUP
1998, 2021

FIFA INTERCONTINENTAL CUP*
2021

FA CUP
1970, 1997, 2000, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2018

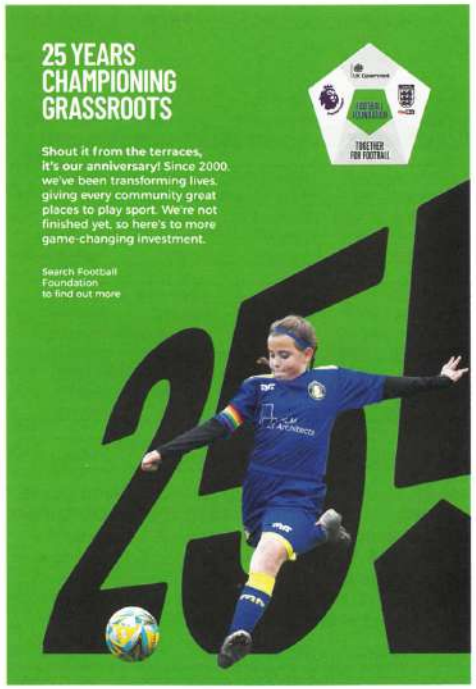
FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP
1965, 1998, 2005, 2007, 2015

FA CHARITY/COMMUNITY SHIELD
1955, 2000, 2005, 2009

FULL MEMBERS CUP
1986, 1990

DIVISION TWO
1984, 1989

*Formerly FIFA Club World Cup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25

STADIUM POLICIES

PLAYING IT SAFE
The safety of all fans and visitors on a matchday is extremely important to us and there are some simple steps we can follow to ensure everybody is safe and secure at Stamford Bridge. Our stewards are here to assist you and offer information. Please remain vigilant and if you see anything you are unhappy with, we encourage you to report it to a steward or any member of staff as quickly as possible. We constantly review our security measures and while some of these are visible, others may not be so obvious, but all are aimed at ensuring that visitors remain safe. Please remember our safety procedures are in place for the benefit of all and we ask you to show patience and support.

ARRIVE EARLY
The busiest period on a matchday is the half-hour leading up to kick-off. Please arrive as early as possible to avoid the biggest crowds.

TICKET CHECKS
Ticket checks are in place upon entering the stadium site so we ask that you have them ready for inspection when you arrive. You may also be asked to show your ticket at any time you are within the Stamford Bridge grounds.

OUR BAG POLICY
We ask fans to refrain from bringing bags to matches, any bag over A4 (100 x 200 x 300 mm) in size will be denied entry. This ensures supporters are able to enter the stadium quickly and freely, as all bags and persons are subject to security searches prior to entering through the turnstiles. Please note there are no storage facilities at Stamford Bridge.

PERSISTENT STANDING
We ask that all supporters remain seated in their designated seat and do not block aisles.

SAFE STANDING (BARRIER/RAIL SEATING)
Safe standing in seated areas, it should be noted, is distinct both from persistent standing in seated areas, and from safe standing in conventional terraced standing accommodation. At Stamford Bridge in the Away Supporter Sections and the Matthew Harding Lower Tier, standing supporters are protected from the risks of forward movement by the installation of suitably designed independent barriers in front of each seat, or by the provision of suitably designed seats that incorporate barriers.

KEEP BAYS CLEAR FOR WHEELCHAIRS
During the pre-match warm-up, please do not enter bays at the front of stands marked for wheelchairs. The areas in front of the bays are emergency exit routes that should be kept clear, save for the movement of supporters in and out of the seating bowl. If you are standing pitchside, please move aside for wheelchair users to watch the warm-up.

NO SMOKING
Smoking is not permitted anywhere within the stadium at Stamford Bridge. The smoking of e-cigarettes or vapes is also forbidden. Any person in breach of these rules will be ejected.

CCTV
CCTV is in operation throughout the stadium for your safety and security.

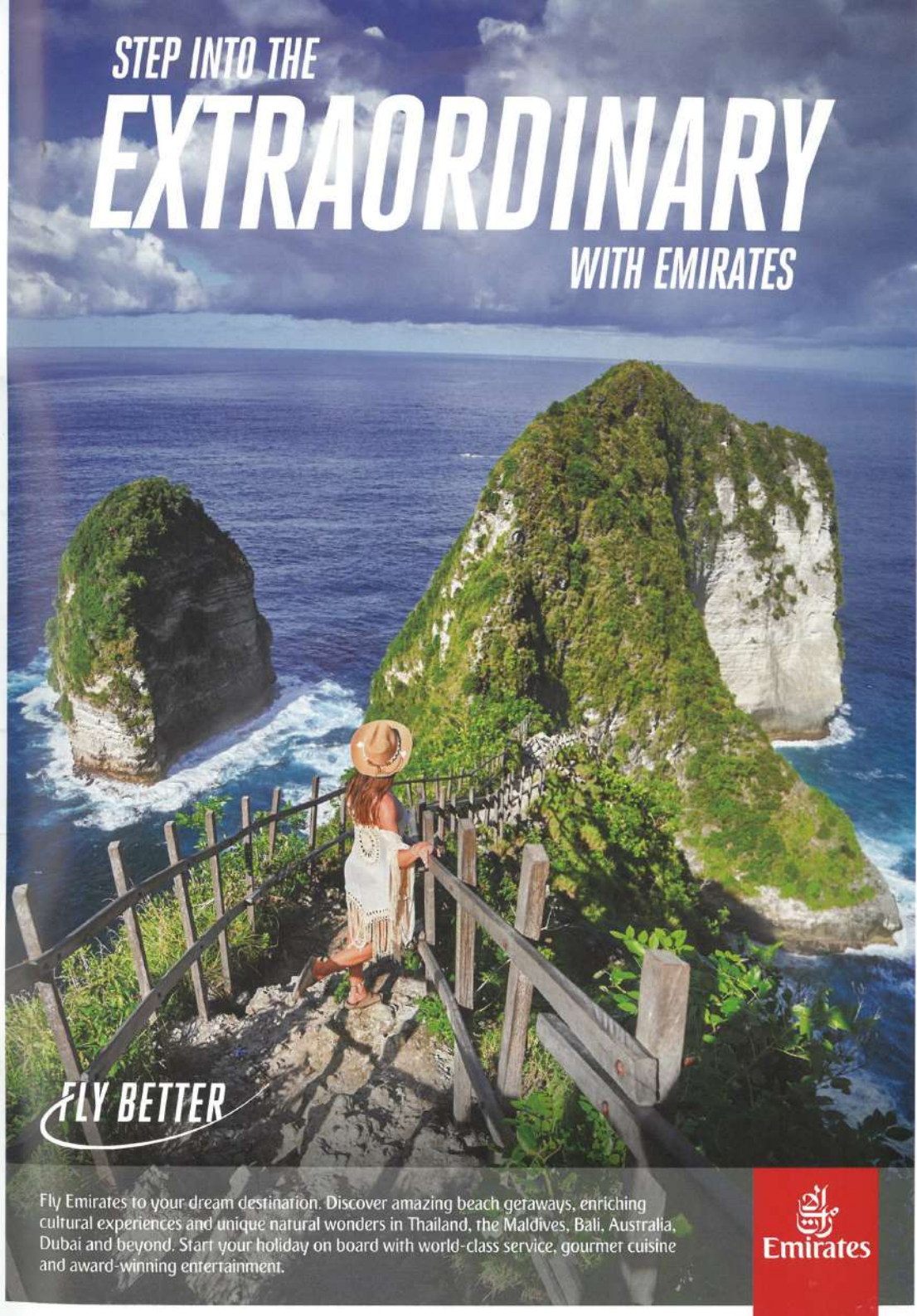
MINIMUM UNACCOMPANIED SUPPORTER AGE CHANGE
Juveniles under the age of 16 will not be permitted entry unless accompanied by a person over the age of 18.

GET IN CONTACT
At Chelsea FC, we aim to deliver outstanding customer service. You can contact the club by the following methods:
Phone: 0371 811 1955 (International: +44 207 386 9373)
Email: supporter.services@chelseafc.com
Post: Supporter Services, Chelsea Football Club, Stamford Bridge, Fulham Road, London SW6 1HS

IF YOU SEE OR EXPERIENCE ABUSE OR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT THE STADIUM, REPORT IT.

NO TO HATE

DURING THE MATCH TEXT 88777 OR SCAN HERE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Emirates

Liam ROSENIOR
Head coach

1	Robert SANCHEZ
3	Marc CUCURELLA
4	Tosin ADARABIOYO
5	Benoit BADIASHILE
6	Levi COLWILL
7	Pedro NETO
8	Enzo FERNANDEZ
9	Liam DELAP
10	Cole PALMER
11	Jamie GITTENS
12	Filip JORGENSEN
14	Dario ESSUGO
17	Andrey SANTOS
19	Mamadou SARR
20	Joao PEDRO
21	Jorrel HATO
23	Trevoh CHALOBAH
24	Reece JAMES
25	Moises CAICEDO
27	Malo GUSTO
28	Teddy SHARMAN-LOWE
29	Wesley FOFANA
34	Josh ACHEAMPONG
38	Marc GUIU
41	Estevao WILLIAN
44	Gabriel SLONINA
45	Romeo LAVIA
49	Alejandro GARNACHO

Jon BRADY
Manager

3	Jaheim HEADLEY
4	Ben HENEGHAN
5	Connor HALL
6	Jordan GABRIEL
7	George BYERS
8	Ben GARRITY
9	Jayden STOCKLEY
10	Dajaune BROWN
11	Ethon ARCHER
12	Rhys WALTERS
13	Ben AMOS
14	Funso OJO
15	Liam GORDON
18	Ryan CROASDALE
19	Ben WAINE
21	Martin SHERIF
23	Jack SHORROCK
24	Kyle JOHN
25	Cameron HUMPHREYS
26	Jordan SHIPLEY
27	Eli CAMPBELL
28	Grant WARD
30	Ben LOMAX
33	George HALL
35	Tyler MAGLOIRE
45	Andre GRAY
46	Joe GAUCI
50	Onel HERNANDEZ

Emirates FA CUP

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Farai HALLAM
(Referee)

Richard WEST
(Assistant referee)

Steven MEREDITH
(Assistant referee)

Andrew MADLEY
(Fourth official)

Neil DAVIES
(VAR)

Peter BANKES
(Additional VAR)

NEXT MATCH

Sunday 12 April
Premier League
Manchester City
Stamford Bridge (4.30pm)

All information correct
at time of going to print

NO TO HATE

No room for racism

CHELSEA FC'S PRINCIPAL PARTNERS

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